TUESDAY JANUARY 12 1999

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A E MUIR Vinat babies do to your brain

LIBBY PURVES A divorce of convenience



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Santer pledges clean-up of EU sleaze

LL European Union staff are week and a timetable by to be bound by a code of con- March, for negotiations on duct designed to curb corruption, nepotism and mismanagement under reforms accepted by Jacques Santer yester-day to avoid consure and the dismissal of all European

The Commission President lso accepted a proposal from hard Schröder for a high-level orkings by the Parliament

commissioners could still bring a damaging vote against Edith Cresson of France and

While the Parliament was far from satisfied with Mr. Santer's failure to show more contrition, he appeared to have answered the main demands of the two big parlia-mentary groups, the Socialists and the centre-right European People's party. Rebels in each group are nevertheless expected to call for censure, as are the Greens and a handful of other groups, but they are unlikely to muster the necessary

 $N \in \mathcal{A}(\mathbb{R}^n)$

wo-thirds majority. The deal offered by Mr Santer gave all the signs of a prior accord with the leaders of the big parties. With all 19 commissioners around him, he acknowledged the gravity of the Parliament's confidence vote. I am ready to bear my share of the responsibility for this." he said, but he pleaded that the Commission had been "victim of its own policy of trans-

parency" in pursuing abuses. Pauline Green, the British Labour MEP who leads the Socialists, deplored the culture of nepotism, patronage and fi-nancial gain" that prevailed in parts of the Commission this must be dealt with now," she said.

Mrs Green wanted details of the independent review this

TV & RADIO

WEATHER CROSSWORDS

OBUTUARIES

COURT & SOCIAL STREET

time its work. Only an inde-

an leader of the PPE, tion receded, but MEPs anger Commission for punishing ver the record of individual Paul van Paris for punishing ommissioners

da Aivoet, the Green leader, said it was time for the executive to take political responsi bility for years of mismanagement. "We need a strong Commission to give strength to Eu-

rope," she said.

The MEPs' reluctance to oust the Commission is strongly backed by member Governthe EU machine. The biggest danger for the Commission is a strong vote for a Liberal mo-French and Spanish commissioners, who have been most closely linked with multimiltion-pound abuses in the ad-ministration of EU programmes. Although no device exists for the parliament to sack commissioners, the MEPs are hoping to shame the pair into resignation. Mime Cresson, however, de-

livered an angry denial of any abuses under her responsibility for spending on vocational training and Senor Marin, who is in charge of overseas de-velopment, said: "Never in my 14 years at the European Comsion have I ever had anything to do with fraud corruption or covering it up."



By HELEN JOHNSTONE

SAFETY experts were yesterday examining the coastal beauty spot at Beachy Head after a section of rockface crashed into the sea in what could be Britain's biggest single loss of coastline in living memory.

The unmanned Beachy Head lighthouse has been effectively rejoined to the Sussex coast after thousands of tonnes of chalk fell 500ft into the sea at the weekend, filling in a popular 100-yard sea channel used extensively by tour-

Experts believe the collapse may have been caused by wa-ter entering the chalk rock and expanding in volume on freezing, forcing the cliff to crum-ble. Beachy Head has the dubious distinction of being one of the world's most popular suicide spots. Last year more peo-ple jumped off it than San Francisco's Golden Gate

Coastguards were last night warning people to keep their distance from the edge as officials from Easthourne Council tried to establish how stable Make or break, page 11 the remaining cliff face was.

"It's a major change to the coastline," said one. It only takes one slip and you don't get a second chance."

The landslide was spotted over three miles out to sea by astonished lifeboat crew members from Eastbourne who estimate that a 50ft deep slab of cliff face fell away along a 200-yard stretch.

Eddie Buckland, a lifeboatman, said: "It's colossal. It's fallen down right out to the lighthouse and up to near the top of the stairs. The last big

ago at the nudist beach about 600 yards east. But that's tiny compared to this one. It's got to go out over 100 yards."

Mark Sawyer, 36, a fellow crewman, said: "I have never seen anything like this before, none of us have. We were three and a half miles out to sea when we saw it and we could see it clearly."

He added: "It really is massive. I've been with the lifeboat crew for eight years and I've been fishing there since I was eight years old and I've never



The Environment Agency, which is not responsible for cliffs but is responsible for beaches, was yesterday keeping a close eye on Beachy Head after confirming the enormity of the latest collapse. Ray Kemp, for the agency. said it was difficult to quantify, but it was certainly the largest by far in the area and prob-

ably the largest yet in Britain. "Hundreds upon thousands of tonnes have gone. Chunks have been falling off Beachy Head for ages but never any thing like the size of this." He said wave height in the Atlantic had increased by 10 per cent in the past decade and the sea was hitting the coastline

"One minute we are in a drought situation and then the chalk is sodden. In eight months out of 12 we have had above average rainfall. The coastline is increasingly vulnerable as climate change starts to bite. What is happening is symptomatic of a whole range of circumstances. In my grandmother's time you could walk around Beachy Head. but that is impossible now."

The latest collapse provides fresh evidence of how many

coastal landmarks and properties around Britain are under threat from coastal erosion. In 1994 Holbeck Hall Hotel in Scarborough fell into the North Sea. Ten villages on a 40-mile stretch in Humberside are threatened with being abandoned as the North Sea continues to eat up the coast-line at an estimated rate of 11 yards a year. Coastal erosion is also becoming a serious

problem in eastern and south-

over the next 50 years. Over the years stormy seas have also ravaged chalk cliffs

along South Down's coastline, leaving several homes perilously close to tumbling into the sea. The erosion has accelerated work to save the Belle Toute, a neighbouring lighthouse and the only permanently inhabited former lighthouse

em England, with sea levels ex-

pected to rise by up to 20in

Blair makes NHS key to Yemen prepares new Labour relaunch

By Roland Watson, jill Sherman and Ian Murray

LIBBY PURMES AS AS ARTS ARTS AS A SECOND A TONY BLAIR yestenday used the beleaguered health service as a means of reassering the Government's authority and to deflect attention from the recent tide of personaltiy-driven rifts and scandals.

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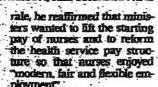
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On the first day of the new parliamentary term, the Prime Minister sanctioned an unexpected Commons statement from Frank Dobson, the nurses, particularly nurses Health Secretary, after a fortstarting out in the NHS." night that has seen emergency Mr Dobson used his Comwards stretched to the limit.

Mr Dobson fell short of making any new announcements, but he repeated his hope that the Government would be able to fund this year's pay review body recom-mendations for masses pay in full. These could be as much as 10 per cent for the lowest paid nurses, in an attempt to solve the recruitment crisis.

Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, in a speech to husiness-men in Edinburgh, took up the theme. Hoping to raise mo-



ployment.

Mr Brown said: "Specifically we have called for the review body to take into account the special circumstances of

BEACHY HEAD ! THUMBE MILE NEW LABOUR) mons appearance to thank NHS staff for their recent efforts. However, he told MPs

worsen tinder a prolonged spell of icy weather. Ann Widdecombe, the Shadow Health Secretary, accused him of complacency, saying that nothing in his statement would make the "slightest bit of difference to those now lying on trolleys in fear, in pain, waiting for treatment".

that the winter crisis, fuelled

by flu victims turning up at

casualty departments, could

The Liberal Democrats joined the Opposition in urging the Government to end its headline policy of cutting waiting lists. Simon Hughes, the party's health spokesman, said the "obsession" was jeopardising the quality of treatment throughout the NHS.

Mr Dobson was asked repeatedly about the extent to which the treatment of routine waiting list cases was causing Continued on page 2, col 5

to charge Britons

By James Landale and Daniel McGrory

FIVE Britons detained in Yemen on suspicion of plotting terrorist outrages are likely to be charged within 48 hours, Robin Cook told MPs yesterday.

The Foreign Secretary said that he had obtained assurances from the Yemeni Prime Minister that the men would have access to legal advice. British diplomats had seen four of them, but had been barred from seeing the fifth because he had dual British-Yemeni nationality. He would, however, be granted consular access within 36 hours.

Mr Cook also said that a police expert with experience in hostage negotiations was to be appointed to advise the Foreign Office and foreign govern-ments on their handling of hostage taking.

He spoke as Yemeni ministers repeated their prumise not to use force to try to free John Brooke, an oilworker from Norwich who was kidnapped

manding the release of a comrade accused of murder.

While it was feared that Mr Brooke could be held captive for weeks, security chiefs were investigating the possible in-volvement of a London group headed by a Muslim cleric, known as Abu Hamza, who preaches at a mosque in Finsbury Park, north London, in an alleged plot to blow up British targets on Aden on Christmas Day.

One of the five Britons being held has allegedly confessed that he was paid \$2,000 to bomb the British consulate, the Anglican church and Aden's biggest hotel.

The man, Mohsen Ghailan who has the same name as the stenson of the Londonbased Muslim Cleric - also allegedly admitted meeting Abu Hassan, the leader of the gang which abducted 16 western tourists before Christmas.

Mosque training, page 3

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TODAY ON PAGE 16

The opinion formers.... Challenging minds in the changing Times



Michael Gove Newspapers are not yet as savage as in the 18th



Purves One can occasionally, pass out hugging a

press secretary, to warn the Prime Minister that the set-

tling of old scores between La-

bour's rival factions has to

Stop.
One senior Labour MP

spoke yesterday of the need to avoid a "Thatcher/Lawson sit-

uation", a clear warning to Mr

lowers and those of the Chan-

Clive Soley, the chairman of

the Parliamentary Labour Par-

ty, said last night that after the

recent episodes there had to be "a line underneath all that".

He said: This business of personal leuds between people and people getting into the sort of situation that Peter got

into must be put behind us. It

has happened now but i

There was support for Rob-

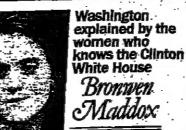
in Cook among Labour MPs after the serialisation of his ex-

wife's book. MPs said they did

must n't happen any more."

Blair to ensure his camp-fol-

cellor stop their feuding.





The Government's relaunch torpedoed by the man who sees -: beyond the spin Simon

TOMORROW



The greatest threat we face in 1999 by the Sage of Cricklewood Alan

Mandelson could be back before election

be back in the Cabinet before the end of next year, Downing Street insiders believe.

The timing of such a return to the frontline would allow the former Trade Secretary to perform a high-profile role in

But the speed of his rehabilitation would alarm many Labour MPs who believe he should remain out of the limelight for the rest of this Parlia-

Tony Blair will by warned tomorrow by senior backbenchers that it would "misjudge the mood" for Mr Mandelson to be offered a fast track back to high office after his resignation over his £373,000 home loan from Geoffrey Robinson.

"It would be too soon. Tony needs to keep his distance from him for a good while one senior Labour MP

There has already been con-

JACK STRAW is to water

down plans to end secrety in government. He has decided

to remove the word "substan-

tial" from the harm test which

would decide disclosure of

documents to the public. The change is to be included in the

draft Freedom of Information

A "substantial harm" test would have given Britain the most open freedom of infor-

mation laws in the world and

was set out in last summer's

White Paper after a deal be-

tween the Lord Chancellor,

Lord Irvine of Lairg, QC, and

Bill next month.

PETER MANDELSON could cern expressed that Mr Mandelson represented Mr Blair at a meeting last week with one of Gerhard Schröder's ministers to discuss policymaking.

However, Mr Blair is said by friends to see nothing wrong with bringing Mr Man-delson back during the course of next year. Realistically that would either be in a summer reshuffle, in about 18 months, or in an autumn reshuffle gearing up for an early election in the spring of 2001.

One option would be to bring him back not into the Cabinet but as a middle-ranking minister, possibly with re-sponsibility for Europe. Friends said yesterday that as well as being shocked and

bernused by Mr Mandelson's error, Mr Blair has also been angered by the way his friend had let him down. But the pair have been in regular contact since his resignation, includ-ing speaking while Mr Blair

By Valerie Elliott, whitehall editor

David Clark, then Public Serv-

ices Minister. But Mr Straw

Clark was sacked from the

Cabinet - was concerned that

it could compromise police

and intelligence work and as-

ing to offer a compromise giv-ing the public a greater "right

to know about the law en-

forcement agencies including

police, customs, and environ-

mental inspectors. Only infor-

mation relating to prosecu-

However, Mr Straw is will-

sist criminal activities.

who was given charge of drafting the Bill after Dr



Mandelson: insiders predict Europe role

was on holiday in the Sey-

In his Sunday interview with Sir David Frost, Mr Blair pointedly left open the door to the MP for Hartlepool, saying, the future will look after it-

MPs also plan to confront Mr Blair over the operation of ministerial spin-doctors, using the departure of Charlie Whe-lan, the Chancellor's colourful

would be barred. Mr Straw

has asked officials to draw up

separate definitions of harm

for national security, defence

and international relations;

law enforcement: personal pri-

vacy, commercial confidential-

ity: safety of the individual.

the public and the environ-ment information supplied in confidence and official advice

Maurice Frankel, director

of the Campaign for the Free-dom of Information, said last

night "It is clear to me that

the substantial harm test is be-

whittled away."

to ministers.

not believe her assertion that Mr Cook had been a heavy drinker in the late 1980s. "Robin Cook is no George Brown," said one MP, a reference to Labour's Foreign Secre-tary during the 1960s whose drinking habits were notori-Straw keeps secrets code ous and embarrassing to the

party.
Several MPs suggested that
the Government had been seriously damaged during the past few weeks but stressed that the guilty culprits were not leftwingers nor Old La-bour MPs, but modernisers.

"The Parliamentary Labour Party has kept quiet through-out this period. The finger can-not be pointed at us for what has happened over Christ-mas," said one MP.

Another leftwinger said al-most gleefully; The Campaign group has not been responsible for any of the it is the rightwingers, new Labour, that have brought this upon



Nurses struggle with a heavy workload at Newcastle's Royal Victoria Infirmary

NHS key to relaunch

Continued from page 1 the backlog of emergency cases, but declined to answer. Ministers are expecting to receive the recommendations

of the medical pay review bod-ies in the next few days. Although City forecasts show the Government could afford an above average pay rise for nurses. Stephen Thornton, chief executive of the NHS Confederation, said that any rise would have to be gradual over three or four

"A more generous settle-

ment this year would have very serious implications for the NHS," he said. "There will be precious little left of the Government's modernisation fund if nurses are given a

big pay rise."
However, Christine Hancock, general secretary of the Royal College of Nursing, said that even a 5 per cent rise would not make an impact on the musing shorgage.

"Jam tomorrow is an unacceptable promise. It is nurse shortages that have led to this year's crisis in the NHS. We

cannot provide good patient care when we are short of some 12,000 nurses. A good pay rise would boost numbers mediately."

In what was seen as a relaunch of New Labour, the Government also made clear that it would use this week to make a number of policy announcements and keynote speeches in a bid to get its modernsing agenda back on

Michael Gove, page 16

Kitemark. register for nanny agencies

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN SOCIAL AFFAIRS

A NEW national register for private nanny agencies is to be announced by the Government today as part of package of measures designed to stamp out rogue operators who fail to carry out proper checks on pro-spective employees.

The new measures, to be an rionned by the Educatic Minister. Margaret Hodge, include the introduction the first litemark system of accreditation for nanny agen-

Only agencies that under-take to conduct a face-to-face interview with nannies will qualify for a kitemark and for inclusion on the register. The register will be voluntary initially, but may be made com-

pulsory in the future.

The measures follow the Louise Woodward trial in America and a number of high-profile court cases in Britain in which children have died while being cared for by namines or childminders.

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Under the new measures, the Department of Trade and Industry will be given stronger powers to close any agency found not to have properly vetted prospective nannies.

The Government will also

produce a leaflet for parents advising them what they should look out for when employing a nanny and what kind of questions to ask a prospective namely.

Local authorities will be is sued with new good practice guidelines on vetting childrare workers. In future all child-minders will be asked to provide a copy of their birth and marriage certificates, to ena-ble police checks to be carried out on them under their maid-Leading article, page 17 en and married names.

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General Howard rides to the rescue of wounded enemy

Howard yesterday executed a daring rescue of the be-leagured Robin Cook.

Just when Cook's and the Government's domestic position looked hopeless - ambushed, coralled and mediabashed — who should come riding over the horizon to save them? Hooray! It was the Con-servative Party, led by Gener-

is it any longer true that ministers are salest when the Commons is in recess? By the end of the holiday this week-end, things had looked bleak for the Foreign Secretary. An aggrieved ex-wife had laid into him in a savage book.

The press had been merci-

less. Spinning through the public mind were images of the elfin Mr Cook with brandy bottle, comatose on a botel floor; tales of fear and loathing in Cabinet; and flights of sexual fancy that took Mr Cook's wispy beard to pillows hither-to undreamed of. Poor Cook. Whence the next blow?



Howard. Phew. Immediately. sympathy switched back to Cook. The testimony of a scorned woman bent on revenge may be Gospel in the Britain of 1999 — but the evidence of the Conservative Party? Ah, unreliable. Who believes them? Don't they have an axe to grind? Unlike Marga-

ret Cook, of course. Cook spoke well on the Yemeni problems, but the mood behind him seemed subdued. In the clearest sign yet that new Labour's honeymoon is over. there was only one woman on mary colours. Eleven - more than half - wore black.

Faces, male and female, were impassive. The Foreign Secretary was heard in silence and afterwards feebly cheered.
If this was Cook's "fightback" then the lighter was missing

myself. Reporters dropped their pencils: just because

wanted to be associated with this Tory lot.
The Shadow Foreign Secre-tary began harmlessly, with a few inquiries into what is, for a few families in Britain, the most heartbreaking story. He soon forgot this. New Year's goodwill ran out before he was halfway round the block. Within minutes he was using the

their newspapers were critical

Yemen as a stick with which to dling of the Northern Ireland peace process, which he said had involved the release, too early, of convicted terrorists. There were angry cries of Shame! Cheap! and Disgrace-

ful! from the Labour benches. Whatever their doubts about Mr Cook, this, they felt, was

Then Howard began a per-sonal attack on Cook's compe-

one still kidnapped, this was the Labour side turned to age. Howard had accomplished the unlikely feat of turning the villain of Marga-ret Cook's memoir into an ob-ject of Commons sympathy. Cook perked up. With brisk

confidence he answered the questions that followed. His re-

covery had begun . . Then, just as his skies began to clear, who should come gal-loping over the horizon? The maverick leftwinger and scourge of Tony Blair's bomb-ing of Iraq: George Galloway (Lab, Glasgow, Hillhead). And — oh no! — Galloway was supporting Cook.
The last time Mr Galloway

hit the front page of The Sun was 12 years ago, when claims surfaced about a torrid epi-sode involving women on the Greek island of Mykonos. The headline was "Gorgeon George Bonked for Britain!" And now the Scot was praising Robin Cook - "masterful" he gushed. With friends like se, who needs enemies?

Teachers back Blunkett's old-style numeracy hour

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

TEACHERS' leaders yester-day welcomed a ESS million drive to improve children's numeracy through the daily use of multiplication tables and other traditional methods, but Tories said that the Government should only focus on the worst-performing schools. David Blunkett, the Educa-

tion Secretary, confirmed the introduction of a numeracy hour in primary schools from next September after children involved in pilot projects re-corded better results than their peers. Some made an extra 16 months' progress in two years. The daily mathematics lessons of between 45 minutes and an hour will be less close-

duced for literacy last Septem-

The numeracy drive is inrended to meet the Government's target of 75 per cent of Il-year-olds reaching their expected level in mathematics. Every school will have its own target, reflecting the ability of

Nigel de Gruchy, the general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, welcomed the scheme, but many from the Labour Party. were prominent among those groups of people, pontificating the classroom, who somehow

teachers in the 1960s and 70s to give up tried and tested traditional methods." Kay Driver, the general secretary of the Professional Association of Teachers, said: The Government appears to have done its own sums and produced a for-mula which will improve ba-sic standards for pupils." But David Willets, the

Shadow Education Secretary, said that there was no need for a national scheme. "Good schools already doing well don't need the distraction of being told how to teach, and bad schools won't have enough support to achieve the improvement they need." he said.

Liverpool alarm at DUP move*

BY RUSSELL JENKINS POLITICAL leaders in Liver-

pool gave warning yesterday branch of the Democratic Unionist Party in the area could reopen old sectarian wounds. The prospect of the DUP council elections in May dismayed Mike Storey, the council's Liberal Democrat leader. and also the opposition parties and the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches - whose eaders in the area have long

A local DUP spokesman said it was setting up a branch because of "unprecedented lev-

campaigned for tolerance.

مكذا من رالإمل:

Young Muslims given military training at mosque in London

Group accused of Yemen plot link spreads message on Internet, write Adrian Lee and Stephen Farrell

A RADICAL London-based Muslim organisation, which has been linked to a terrorist plot to bomb British targets in Yemen, has a website that depicts a hand grenade and promotes the use of extreme

The Supporters of Shariah used the Internet to recruit young people for a camp at which military training was taught. Yesterday the group's leader, Abu Hamza, a prominent Muslim cleric who preaches at the Finsbury Park Mosque in North London; admitted that one of the British subjects being held in Yemen for the alleged plot might be

A second Briton could be one of the organisers of the "Islamic Camp held at the mosque, from December 24 to 26 last year, said Mr Hamza.

The mosque itself - misspelt as Finnsbury — appears prominently on the Support-ers of Shariah website, which mixes graphics with English and Arabic text. "Shariah" is Muslim boly law. On one page, a hand grenade and dumbbell appear above details of study of the Koran and contact numbers for the group's organisers. Elsewhere audio and video tapes are offered at £1 and £5, and supporters are urged to contact Abu lamza at his e-mail address.

Mr Hamza, who initially claimed that he did not know any of the five men under sus-

was simply a cartoon and that the camp, attended by 30 young men, was arranged to distract them from Christmas and "the obscenity of television". At the camp, men were taught "to become like military men, to become a solbelieved in the use of violence to counter state terrorism: "I

in. The website also advertisand the role of our women in the field of Jihad Iholy warf". It carries a 17-page "declaration of war against the United States by Osama bin last August's bombing of American targets in Kenya and Tanzania, which killed 224 people. The tract contains the exhortation: "The wails of oppression and humiliation cannot be demolished except

write about what I believe

Yesterday Mr Hamza, 41, accused the Yemeni authorities of trying to blacken his name. He confirmed that the name of one of those arrested, Mohsen stepson, but said that it was had used his documents and those of another suspect, Sarmad Ahmed, to implicate them both in the plot.

Mr Hamza's natural son. Mohammed Kamel Mustapha. 17, is believed to be in Yemen, where he is wanted by



Abu Hamza and the Internet advertisement for the camp, which he says was arranged to distract young men from Christmas television

عري زمن ريومل

the authorities. On the website, those interested in the camp are asked to reply to Sarmad and a mobile telephone number is listed. One of the Britons under arrest in Yemen is Sarmad Ahmed, 21, an accountancy student from Yardkey, Birmingham. A man answering the mobile telephone

yesterday said that he had bought it from a man called Sarmad and that the previous owner was in Yemen

porters of Shariah members have been supporting the Mu-jahidin as well as refugees in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Kashmir as well as the frontline soldiers". Mr Harnza, who was born in Egypt, has no hands and claims to have lost them while fighting with the Mujahidin. He has been a British citizen since 1985 and holds a

degree in civil engineering. Relatives of Mohsen Ghaifrom Hammersmith. West London, whose parents were born in Morocco, poured scorn on allegations by the Yemeni authorities that he was a terrorist. His aunt, Su-Faoud, said yesterday: "He is young — what does he know about arms?" He was an engineering student who was widely travelled and had visited Yemen to broaden his mind, she said.

She added that her Frenchborn fiance, Abdharam James, 25, who was with the five Britons, had also been seized by the authorities in Yemen. She said that her nephew had no links to Supporters of Shariah, nor Mr Hamza.

She said: "They just need someone to blame. They have picked on a child."

Finosbury Park Mosque

Families of the detainees gathered in Birmingham yesterday to campaign for their release. Monica Davis, 23, a student from Luton, Bedfordshire, said that her husband, Ghulam Hussein, 25, was apolitical, in poor health, and had simply gone to Yemen for

Malik Harhara, 26, and Shaheed Akran Bet, have no known links with the Supporters of

Ms Davis said that her hus-band travelled to Yemen on December 18, expecting her and their 18-month-old daughter, Hannah, to fly out a week later. She said: "We are finding it very difficult to get any belp from the British Government. They have not contacted any of the families and it's disgusting. They are English nationals and you would have expected something to have

been done. "He went out to Yemen on his own and I think what's happened is that, being in an Arab country, you tend to lis-ten out for English-speaking people and that's what my hus-band did. He has got talking to other people and he has been rounded up with them

and lumped together." Ghayasuddin Siddiqui, leader of the self-styled Muslim parliament in Britain, said that be "deplored" Mr Hamza's extreme views. He said:
"You will always find people
in any society with views like
this man and I find what he has to say deplorable and I am dismayed by his thoughts.

"I do not think that the vast majority of Muslims will share this man's views and it harms our cause and reflects badly on our religion."

Whippet breeding pair were stabbed to death

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

A RECLUSIVE elderly worn-an and her middle-aged unmarried daughter have been remote country home, Norfolk

police said yesterday. Constance Sheridan, 70, and her daughter Janice, 45, were keen breeders of whippers and Miss Sheridan had won prizes at Crufts. When police broke into their home they found more than a dozen of the dogs

As detectives launched a murder hunt with 50 officers police said the pair were found in the lounge of their home at Pingle Bridge, about a mile from the village of Upwell, between Downham Market and Wisbech. They were last seen on Thursday, and their bodies were found on Sunday.

Police were yesterday still searching for next of kin to carry out a formal identification. The two had been living in the area for about ten years.

Police were alerted after John Bromiley, another dog breeder who employed Miss Sheridan to walk his dogs, became worried when she failed to turn up for work on Sun-day. When he reached the house there was no reply, but Miss Sheridan's car was in the drive and her dogs were barking furiously. After talking to a neighbour who had not seen

them, he decided to call police. Mr Bromiley said he had known Miss Sheridan, a former poultry factory worker, for five years. He added: "She used to work for me just to earn some pin money to help feed her dogs. She was just a lovely person who lived for her whippets. She had no social

life outside her dogs." Police said both women had died from stab wounds. A police spokesman said: "We are treating the deaths as suspicious until post-mortem exami-

nations have been completed." He added that detectives believed the women had been stabbed with a knife, but no murder weapon had been found. He said there was no obvious sign of a break-in, although police could not yet rule out that possibility.

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students By HANNAH BETTS

SIX Oxford students were banned from the university's premises yesterday as the eadline expired for protesters ver tuition fees to abandon their campaign and pay up.

The six cannot be entered for university examinations or use the Bodleian Library. On Sunday, the first day of term. the identity cards that allow them access to university facili-

One student at St Hilda's College and two at Somerville have declared in writing to the university their intention not to pay. A further three have ignoted the deadline for payment, in effect adding themselves to the list of banned students. They are campaigning cainst the introduction by the overnment of a El,000

charge for undergraduates. The students will be able to use their college libraries and take part in college tutorials, although they will be barred from university lectures.

No payout over squirrel's visit

to their house after a three-day holiday to find that it had been amounting to £5,000.

Desmond and Veronica Green's home was strewn with broken crockery, pictures had been pulled down and the curtains were hanging in rib-

ny has refused to pay for the damage because the culprit — which probably fell down a chimney — was a squirrel. The company says that it does not cover damage by most ani-

bad enough having such a strange thing happen to you, the damage the squirrel has say there is nothing it can do is ridiculous."

couple's alarm went off while

A RETIRED couple returned they were in London visiting their daughter. Mr Green said: "The squirrel looked at him and then bolt-

ed further into the house. After a lengthy struggle and a lot of chasing he managed to usher the animal out of the house. There was stuff everywhere, broken china in the hall and on the stairs, nibbled picture But their insurance compaframes on the floor, an antique

chair was attacked." A spokesman for the insur-ers, Saga, said that while its cover excluded damage by most animals the company was considering amending its policy in future. Mr Green said: "The matter

Mr Green, 71, of Shrewsis now in the hands of my solic-itor, who is seeing if there have been any other cases like it." bury, Shropshire, said: "It is Dave Dawson, of the Loncaused is amazing. But for don Ecology Unit, said squiryour insurance company to rels were not known as home wreckers though they could cause minor damage by nest-

A neighbour came face toface with the intruder after the **Brit award** record for the taking

BY ALEX O'CONNELL

ROBBIE WILLIAMS last night rounded off a year in which he was transformed from also-ran to superstar with a record number of nomi-nations at the Brit Awards.

The former member of the defunct boy band Take That is up for a dozen awards including Best Single for Angels and Millennium, a song he has said he dislikes.

Williams, who is engaged to the All Saint singer Nicole Appleton, has also been nominated the saint singer Nicole Appleton, has also been nominated the saint singer Nicole Appleton, has also been nominated the saint singer Nicole Appleton, has also been nominated the saint singer Nicole Nicole Saint S

nated for Best British Male, Best Album for I've Been Expecting You and for two enfries in Best British Video. Trailing him with five nomi-

nations are Massive Attack. Gomez, Catatonia, the Manic Street Preachers and Fat Boy Slim each received three nomi-

The Eurythmics are to receive this year's award for Outstanding Contribution to British Music at the ceremony on February 16.

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Greek tragedy of long-lost loves

John Carr on an unhappy ending to romance of couple parted by war

AN 90-YEAR-OLD Greek woman who had waited al most 60 years to be reunited with the Italian soldier she loved died on Sunday, less than a year before the couple were finally to wed.

In a drama that could have been lifted from the pages of Captain Corelli's Mandolin, Angeliki Stratigou ended her lonely life in a hospital in the western Greek city of Patra. expecting that her Second World War romance with Luigi Surace would finally lead them both to the altar at the end of this year.

At her funeral yesterday. relatives described bow hours before her death Signorina Stratigou received two postcards from Signor Su-race ending with the phrase "Amore Sempre", or eternal love. Doctors said she suffered a stroke after kidney



Angeliki Stratigou and Luigi Surace after 53 years apart

failure. "Ti Aspetto Con Grande Amore" (I await you with great love) were reportedly her last words to Signor Surace, 81, who his unwell at his home in Reggio Calabria,

had not yet been told of Signorina Strafigou's death. The two were brought together after a 53-year separation by reporters on Skai, a television network, after Sigoor Surace's letters to his

were repeatedly re-

ing in lofts. But he added:

"Any animal will go crazy if it

ran Greece. Signorina Stratigou said she remembered Luigi as a handsome non-commissioned officer who wooed her with food from the Italian Army's stores when hundreds of Greeks were dying of starva-tion. When those Italian soldiers who survived German massacres had to leave, Signor Surace asked for her hand. But Signorina Stratig-ou, fearing for her reputation if she married an Italian, refused.

turned. The couple met in 1941, when Axis forces over-

His first letters to his wartime love apparently having got nowhere, Signor Surace's thoughts turned again to her after his wife died in 1995. He wrote to Patra City Council. which notified Skai TV. Reporters arranged the couple's reunion last February.



A ten-year-old British boy has become the youngest chess player to qualify for a national championship final (Elizabeth Judge writes).

Murugan Thiruchelvam, above, qualified for the British Chess Championship after taking second place in the Fulprint York Open with four wins and a draw from five games. He has broken the world record by more

Nigel Short, a grandmaster, currently ranked second in the country and the British world title challenger.

Boy's pieces of history

qualified for the championship when he was II. Murugan, from New Malden, southwest London, will now compete for the Smith and Williamson Britsh Championship in August.

The feat was Murugan's fourth world record. At the age of six, he became the youngest tournament win-ner. Last October he became the

aster and to achieve a rating equivalent to that of an international master's. In 1997, within a few months, he won the British Under-8s Chess Championship, the England Under-II and London Under-12 titles.

Grete White, the British Chess Federation manager, said: "This is very

exciting and we look forward to seeing even higher performances. He is regarded as an outstanding prospect as well as a level-headed child."

Murugan began playing chess when he was three after seeing his brother playing on a computer. Nei-ther his father, Kandiah, nor his mother, Shantha, who came to Britmal boy, who supports Manchester United and likes computer games, but also happens to be good at chess."

ain from Sri Lanka 20 years ago, play. His mother said: "He really is a nor-

Inmates praise tough regime at 'boot camp'

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT.

OFFENDERS at the only boot camp" in England and Wales have praised the tough regime of drill and physical exercise provided there, according to an inspection report published today.

The young immates even complained that they were bored at weekends when no organised activities were provided by the special unit at Thorn Cross young offender institu-tion at Warrington, Cheshire. They told Sir David Ramsbotham, the Chief Inspector of Prisons, that the rigorous 16-hour daily regime was bet-ter than at any other prison institution in the country.

They found the six-month programme "positive, con-structive but hard". It combines strenuous physical activi-ty with the teaching of social and life skills and vocational training in work such as plastering, catering and motor me-

Sir David's report praises the institution and particular-ly the High Intensity Training Unit - the part of Thorn Cross that has been dubbed a "boot camp". He praised the integration of academic and physical education into the daiprogramme, and the use of llenging outdoor pursuits and of work in the community. His report says prisoners are subjected to a very long and physically demanding

Health Secretary.

the cleaning of the unit, inspections and drill. They continue with formal activities, including up to four hours' physical education a day, until 8.30pm. Lights are put out at 10pm. Sir David says: "Young pris-

oners' rooms were inspected daily and they were expected to maintain military-style standards with kit arranged in the prescribed way and highly polished boots.

"Young prisoners also took responsibility for cleaning the whole unit and jobs were rotated so that all were involved. Young prisoners clearly took a great deal of pride in this area of their work and the standard of cleanliness was the highest

we have seen in a prison."
"Drill training" was an important element of the regime and used to encourage discipline, team spirit and confidence. "At the weekends there was a full parade with a governor's inspection. Young prisoners were provided with a best' uniform for such occasions. which they also wore when on visits. Physical education was maintained throughout the programme with all young prisoners completing at least one session daily," the report says. The outdoor pursuits course was particularly physically demanding, and encouraged leadership and teamwork in a harsh environment. Inmates not on the high-

vious of those who were. They complained that those in the boot camp? got the best of everything.

The report said that 218 offenders had joined the special unit, but only 161 had successfully completed all stages. Offenders who failed did so because they absconded or did not keep to the strict condi-tions under which they worked in the community.

Sir David found the high intensity programme one of the the Prison Service. It was an inspiring attempt to create a ers completing the course had a real opportunity to benefit from the experience of being in prile on, something far remove from the often very destructive

nature of prison life." A second boot camp, run by the Army at the Military Corrective Training Centre at Colchester, Essex was closed last year after 12 months because the Government said the resuits did not warrant the £31,000 a year it cost per inmate. The findings of a study of the Colchester experiment have not yet been published. An evaluation of the cost

and effectiveness of the experiment at Thorn Cross in preventing reoffending is to be published this summer.

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Knox's spirit could save MSPs

BY JASON ALLARDYCE SCOTTISH POLITICAL REPORTER

POLITICIANS could be reduced to smuggling beer into Scotland's first parliament in 300 years to get round an alcohol ban, a senior candidate claimed last night.

Angus Robertson, who will be standing for the Scottish National Party, described the prohibition that will apply during the first two years of the ad-ministration as "ridiculous". The rule was imposed by the

Church of Scotland, which is allowing Assembly Hall, the base for its annual general assembly, to be used as the par-

liament's temporary home un-til a purpose-built complex at Holyrood is ready in 2001.

At Westminster, much of the real business is conducted in six bars and function rooms with bars. Several restaurants are also licensed to serve alcohol, and drink costs about two thirds of the commercial rate.

Mr Robertson, 29, a Guinness drinker who has worked as a journalist all over Europe. said: "This will be the first parliament in the western world without a bar. You can imagine all these Members of the Scottish Parliament walking about with plastic bags con-

taining lager cans." Dennis Canavan, the La-

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bour MP who is standing as an independent in Falkirk after being rejected as an official Labour candidate, was equally unimpressed. An Edinburgh drinker in his student days, Mr Canavan suggested that MPs could perhaps get around the problem by naming the bar after John Knox, a

hardline preacher in the Scot-

tish Reformation who lived in

the capital "Maybe the Church could be persuaded to give us a spe-cial dispensation to have a temporary bar which we could call John Knox's pulpit where we could get regular spiritual A Church of Scotland

Homeowners

stored in your home

to impose a prohibition on the sale and supply of alcohol in church buildings on the basis that this was inappropriate. He suggested, however, that it might be acceptable for Ministers to provide alcohol at receptions and for MSPs to have a tipple after a day of debating. A spokesman for the Scottish Office said that the plans

spokesman said it was normal

for the Holyrood building in-cluded a bar and dining areas may also be licensed. . In the meantime, Edinburgh's pubs are bracing sion by the 129 MSPs and their staff, and are already applying

for late licences.

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Lamprey: shows that the river is cleaner

Welcome back to an ugly vampire

By SIMON DE BRUXELLES

IT IS not usually one of nature's most pleasing sights, but yesterday an ugly marine vampire was being welcomed to a Welsh river. Widespread findings of lamprey on the Usk are an indication that conservation work is paving off.

The lamprey, once considered a delicacy by royalty, needs clean, healthy water to thrive. The fish was discovered at nearly 40 sites on the river in South Wales.

The sea lamprey, the largest of the three main varieties, returns to the river of its birth to spawn and can grow to 4ft in length and 5.5lb in weight. Unlike other fish, it has no scales or jaws and is covered in a thick layer of protective mu-cus. The clusive parasites attach themselves to sea prey

and drain their blood.

The migratory fish have been in long-term decline in many rivers because access to spawning grounds has been blocked by dams, weirs and barrages. The lampreys found by the survey were mainly in their larval form in which

they resemble earthworms. Only when the fish is fully grown will it migrate down-stream in search of suitable prey. Tristan Hamon-Ellis, freshwater ecologist for the freshwater ecologist for the Countryside Council for Wales, said: "They mainly feed at sea on whatever is available. They tend not to at-tack fresh-water lish."

The death of Henry I in Normandy in 1135 was blamed on his eating surfeit of lampreys. They are said to be best stewed with wine.

The Great Lakes of Canada are also suffering a surfeit of lampreys as an invasion of the scagoing variety is destroying stocks of native fish. Unlike most species of marine fish. which have co-evolved with the lamprey, those in the Great Lakes had not encoun-tered them before. The result has been a vampyric massacre that has cost the fishing industry millions in lost catches.

CORRECTION

An article, Organic farming takes root in the South (January 8), should have explained that the research was done by Righ Arber. of Coventry University, under the supervision of Professor Brian Ilbery.

Ashworth inquiry backs drugs and porn claims

intensity programme were en-

BY MARK HENDERSON

CONVICTED sex offenders at available and paedophile activa Merseyside secure hospital ity commonplace were initialwere allowed to play with childismissed by the hospital. dren without supervision and Mr Dobson is expected to announce a reorganisation of deal in pornography and Britain's secure hospitals to

drugs, a report reveals today.

The findings of the public inquiry into Ashworth Special Hospital, set up after a patient absconded and blew the whistle on the lax regime, will be prevent a similar scandal. Patients at Ashworth, Rampion in Nottinghamsbire and Broadmoor in Berkshire will face stricter conditions, with perks such as videos and compresented to the House of Commons by Frank Dobson, the puters banned. There are also plans to hold violent offenders The inquiry is said to have with untreatable "personality

reached "devastating" conclu-sions, and to uphold almost all disorders" in special prison units rather than hospitals. the allegations made by The inquiry, chaired by the Stephen Daggett, a sex offendretired judge Peter Fallon, QC, started sitting in November er who went on the run in 1996. His claims that drugs and pornography were freely 1996 and has heard alarming

rious crimes at the hospital. An eight-year-old girl was allowed to visit a convicted pacdophile, and was often seen dressed only in underpants be ing given piggy back rides of bounced on his knee, the inquiry was told.

Patients were allowed to design and build a garden rid-dled with hiding places for drugs and spots where they could not be observed by nurses. and several ran illegal businesses from their rooms.

Alcohol, drugs and pomography were openly available. Staff were often involved in the rackets, and illegal tapes were so widespread that more :: than 800were seized in one

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evidence of staff lapses and se-

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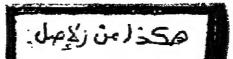
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THE TIMES TUESDAY JANUARY 12 1999 TEGIN PC stole £700 from disabled pensioner Camp officer took money while giving an searched. The officers became suspicious and searched his finding an envelope containing £900 in his rootsers.

A POLICE officer stole £700: from an 83-year-old disabled woman after calling at her. home to give advice on crime prevention, a court was told.

Kenneth Davies, an officer with West Yorkshire Police for almost six years, has denied stealing the money from the home of Doris Midwood between January 1 and 18 last year. He has been suspended on full pay since his arrest almost a year ago.

Simon Goose, for the prosecution, told the jury at Leeds Crown Court that Mrs Midwood regularly put £50 from her pension in a box in her home. She stored the money in Larger of £20 notes separated by an envelope from a layer of ElO notes.

In December 1997 she contacted the police station near ber home in Shipley for advice on crime prevention, and PC Davies was sent to her flat. Mrs Midwood, who is in a wheelchair, told the jury: "He asked me where I kept my money and I said it was in a

box in my bureau." The court was told that PC Davies said she should keep it in a safe tin. He helped her to bide the money and promised to return with an alarm and tins. He returned on January 10 with two safe tins and Mrs

Midwood gave him her box of money to hold.

After filling one of the tins, PC Davies told her to hide it in a kitchen cupboard. She took it into the kitchen, leaving him alone with her savings. When she returned, he handed her the second tin to hide in the cupboard. He then left the house, saying he would return

with locks for the doors. But that evening she be-

PC Davies: said he would have returned the money.

came worried about the money. T was sure he couldn't have put it all in the tins and I was curious," she said. "I opened the tins and there was only a few £10 notes. He had taken the £20 notes, which I had kept separate. I never saw

Mrs Midwood alerted po-lice and two officers visited PC Davies's home on January 21. PC Davies went upstairs, wanted to walk his dog

later, PC Davies admitted taking £700. He said: "I removed some notes from a box and I put them inside my jacket pocket." Later in the interview he said: "It was a dishonest

Davies, 44, from Bradford, admitted in court that he had taken the money, but said that he had immediately wanted to give it back and had not stolen it. He told the jury that, at the time of the incident, he was under stress. He had suffered de pression since the death of his mother-in-law in 1996 and the death of his daughter's boyfriend in 1997.

He told the court that he took the money home for safekeeping, intending to return it

Towas confusing and fright ening. I was scared for my family, for my job, for my house The trial continues.



هيئذر من ريدمل

Kenneth Clarke yesterday: "In the rainforest, it is extremely difficult to shave"

GREAT ITALIAN DESIGN

Clarke's weeks on the wild side

By Mark Inglefield Political reporter

BEARDING Tory conven-tion, Kenneth Clarke, the former Chancelior, returned from his holiday in Barbados yesterday sporting a chinful of rugged bristles. The new look, Mr Clarke said, was the result of the tropical conditions, which precluded the use of a razor. "I've been on a birdwatching holiday in the rain-

difficult to shave," he said. Perhaps aware that no Con-servative leader has had facial hair since the days of Anthony Eden and Harold Macmillan Mr Clarke said that he intended to dispose of the whiskers upon returning to his constitu-ency home in Nottingham-shire.

Some of those close to Mr Clarke, however, thought he might change his mind. He had, after all, once revealed an intention to grow an "Ernest Hemingway-type beard". and his current crop is not unlike those favoured by the Fif-

ties jazz musicians he reveres.

Panel of seven to rule on Pinochet

By Frances Gibb

SEVEN law lords have been appointed to rehearse General Pinocher's appeal in the House of Lords next week. The decision for a rare sitting of seven, rather than the usual five, was announced yesterday as the law lords held a special meeting with Lord Hoffmann.

It was the first time Lord

It was the first time Lord Hoffmann has met his colleagues since they were forced to set aside their ruling because he failed to disclose links with Amnesty Interna-The hour-long meeting.

The House of Lords — to discuss new ground rules on discussion. closure of interests and avoid and repear fiasco — was enfirely

Lord Hoffmann's fumre is not thought to have been discussed and he is not believed to have offered any apology for what happened. Nor was one sought for making them what one judge has called "a laughing stock".

But some senior hudges fear

But some senior judges fear that he is preparing to ride out the storm, and a number feel that he should resign.

The seven law fords who will rehear the case next Monare Lords Browne-Wilkin-son, Goff of Chieveley, Hope of Craighead, Hutton, Saville of Newdigate, Millett and Phillins. The first four were on the panel that decided unanimousy to set aside the original House of Lords ruling before Christmas. The remaining three have not been involved with the case at all.

Later this week the law lords will publish their reasons for setting aside the 3-2 ruling denying General Pinochet immunity from prosecution. 🧠 🐇

Wigs give law a bad name, says judge

By Frances Good

ONE of the most senior judges in England has called for the abolition of wigs, which he says are "positively damaging to the image of the civil justice system".

Sir Richard Scott, who as Vice Chancellor is head of the High Court Chancery Divi-sion, says that wigs present a picture of the law that is antiquated and foolish".

He also castigates judges who want to keep wigs as be-having like "diehards who still wear top hats in the hunting field our of a bankering for the past and for tribal badges of status and

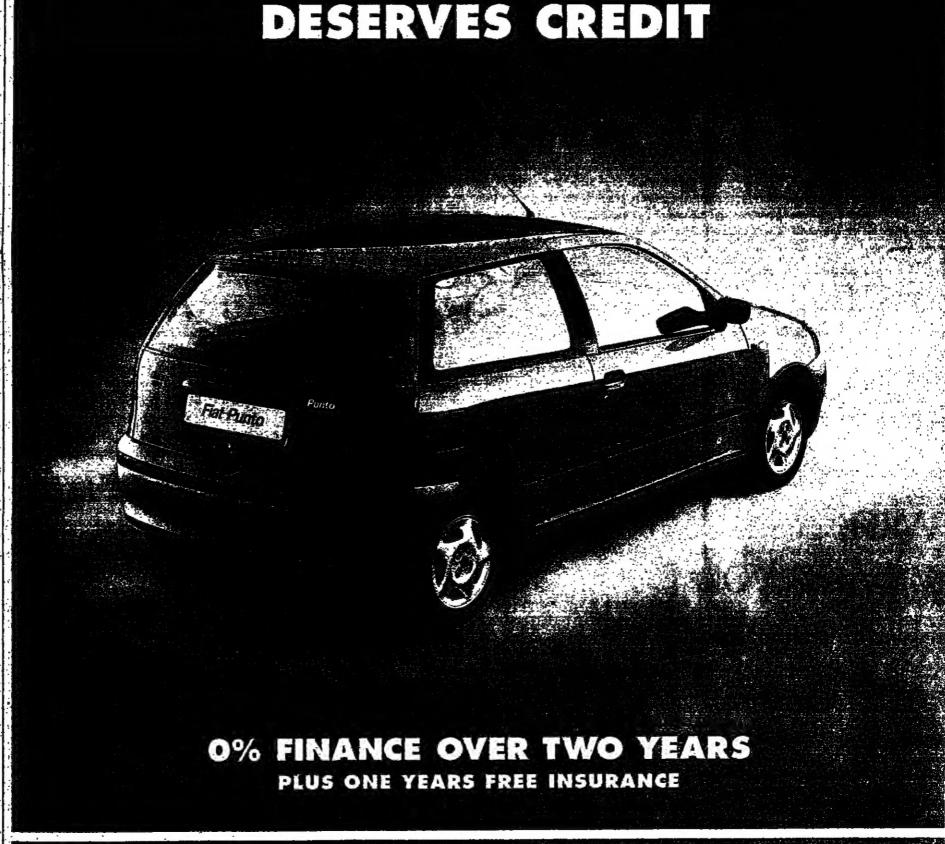
Wigs Sir Richard says ike judges appear to be out of touch with the country inhabited by the litigants before them and also make remarks of the "Who is Gazza?" variety seem typical, rather than an

The wearing of wigs allows, aimost encourages, a cruel parody of the judicial process and of the judges who preside over it. They are also uncomfortable, scratchy and of questionable hygienic quality; even if they no longer provide a home for a variety of tiny

Sir Richard, who was born in South Africa, makes his remarks in the Inner Temple earbook. A keen hunting follower, he has already staged a revolt over the wearing of top hats in the hunting field. He wore one with reluctance until the early 1980s, when a friendvearing a top hat was killed

Lord Irvine of Lairy, the Lord Chancellor, has protested about the wearing of his own wig as Speaker of the House of Lords, complaining that it "weighs a ton".

Law, page 37





The prototype pyramid put on show in Birmingham

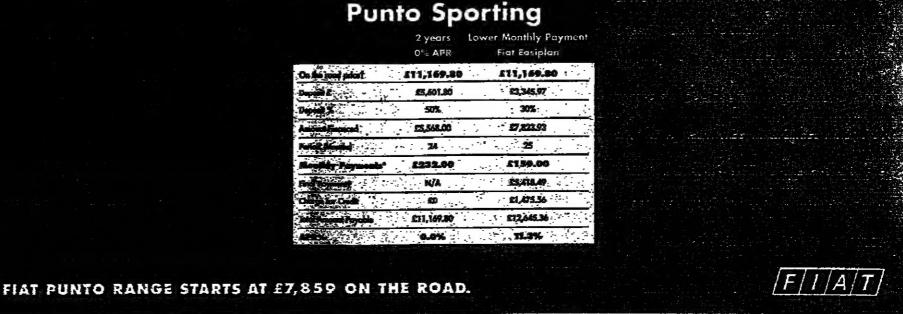
Pyramid house is a hot property

THE solar-powered pyramid of the future, announced by BP yesterday, not only generates enough power to be selfsufficient, it can light up its. neighbours too.

BP believes the Solar Showcase is the way we will all live one day. The £500,000 demon-Port Talbot, South Wales. not known for unbroken skies. The 1,000 sq ft building to be constructed in the spring, is

achieved using the latest technology in the field BP Solar will use the pyramid as a visifor centre at the entrance of an: industrial park being created in Port Talbot

A smaller prototype of the building was exected in Birmingham last year to impress world leaders attending the G8 summit. The new 30ft high building will have more than 170 solar panel generating enough electricity to power



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Father's rural classic puts Bell in shade

Tale of rural life 70 years ago is back in print and there are plans for a TV serialisation, reports Robin Young

MARTIN BELL, the Independent MP for Tatton, is about to be overshadowed once more by his late father, an essayist, novelist and original begetter of The Times crossword.

Adrian Bell's bestselling book, Corduroy, written in 1930 and telling how he came from the city to live and work on a small Suffolk farm, has just returned to print for the first time in 20 years.

Now, in what Martin Bell suggests might become "a sort agricultural Ballykissangel", there are plans to follow the republication of the book with a television series.

Corduroy, Adrian Bell's account of his apprenticeship to a Suffolk farmer, was a classic in its day and exercised a spell

TOWNIE'S FLIGHT

"I was upon the fringe of Suffolk, a country rich in agricultural detail, missed by my untutored eye. It was but scenery to me: nor had I an inkling of the country to me in the country to me in the country to the nor had I an inking or what more it might become. Farming, to my mind, was as yet the townsman's glib catalogue of creatures and a symbol of escape. The symbol of escape. The true friendliness of the scene before me lay beneath ardours of which I knew nothing.
"I was flying from the threat of an office life. I was twenty years old, and the year was 1920."

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on soldiers and airmen in wartime Britain, many of whom dreamt of turning to farming after the end of hostilities.

Enfertainment, which made

The book is a rich mulch of rural nostalgia, sheaves and stacks and steam-powered threshing machines of the 1920s, the like of which a distant kinsman of the MP. Frank Lythgoe, an avid collector of steam engines and agric ulutural bric-a-brac, still has

which he rose to be a farm manager, Bell succeeded in making a living off 89 acres of heavy clay at Redisham, in east Suffolk. In the meantime, just before the success of Corduroy, he was paid three guineas for the first crossword used in The Times, (printed on February 1, 1930, and repeated on the same date in 1995), though he had never solved a crossword before, let alone set one. He went on to supplement

Last October, when The Sun-

day Times, on behalf of the Folio Society, asked its readers to name the best book on country life to complete a list of 20thcentury classics. Corduroy won by a field's length. A television company, DLT

Love on a Branch Line and As Time Goes By, has now acquired the rights from Martin Bell's elder sister, Anthea. She is the English translator of the Asterix cartoons and, Martin Bell concedes, the "real brains" of the family.

at Lymm in Cheshire. After his apprenticeship, in his agricultural and literary income by compiling a further 4.520 puzzles, including the golden jubilee crossword that

> His length of service won him a place in The Guinness Book of Records as the most durable crossword compiler then known, but Bell's explanation was simple. "Crossword

ideal iob for a chap with a vacant mind sitting on a tractor harrowing clods." If Corduroy proves a televis-

appeared 50 years after his iniual success (and the public's appetite for series such as those based on James Herrion's All Creatures Great and Small and H.E. Baies's The Darling Buds of May makes it surprising only that no one thought to snap up the rights

to be exploited. Corduroy was but the first part of a top-selling trilogy, of which Silver Ley and The Cherry Tree are the later volumes.

Other books by Bell include Apple Acre and The Budding Morrow, the latter a vivid personal account of farming in wartime Britain. He also wrote a weekly country column for the Eastern Daily. Press in Norfolk for 30 years.

Martin Bell describes his father as "very clever, but very shy", and remembers him spending hours in his study. groaning a lot", but he adds: Soldiers and airmen used to read Corduror in the Penguin

They wrote to him from their bivouacs and tank turrets about their dreams of a farming life when the war was over. It inspired and encourhe regrets pledge to retire

MARTIN BELL yesterday repeated, "with -regret", his pledge to stay in parliament for only one term, leaving the once-safe Conservative seat likely to be snatched back by

"I said publicly that I would stand for one term only and I stand by that I regret it be. cause I am enjoying myself," he said. "Breaking that promise would undernine whatever I can achieve in the term, because people would say, Look, there's another politician breaking a promise

Mr Bell, a former foreign correspondent, stood for the Cheshire seat of Tatton on an anti-corruption ticket. He said vesterday that he would not ever dorse any candidate for the seat. One of the most hody contested seats at the last election it is expected to be swamped by former Tory MPs.

Among those said to be looking for a safe seat are the former ministers Michael Portillo. William Waldegrave. Malcolm Rifkind and Sir Michael Forsyth: the former Governor of Hong Kong Chris Patten; the defeated MPs Sebastion Coe and Gyles Brandreth; and Christine Hamilton, whose husband, Neil, was displaced as the local member by Mr Belt



Adrian Bell compiled the first Times crossword in 1930. He said the activity was "the ideal job for a chap with a vacant mind sitting on a tractor"

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Harbour chief on oil spill charge

A harbourmaster goes on trial today, charged with negligence that led to one of Britain's worst oil pollution incidents. Captain Mark Andrews faces three charges arising from the leaking of 72,000 tonnes of crude oil from the tanker Sea Empress, which devastated marine and bird life along the West Wales coast.

If found guilty at Cardiff Crown Court, Captain Anfine and up to two years in jail Milford Haven Port Authority also faces two charges of negli gence. It is accused of allowing an insufficiently trained pilot

to bring the vessel into port. The oil was spilt when the tanker hit rocks in February 1996. The pollution badly hit the local economy, and the tourism and fishing industries are still struggling to recover.

Poison warning

A warning of the fatal risk posed by faulty fires and boil-ers is being delivered with fuel bills in Wales and the West Midlands, where the most deaths occur. Across Britain, 438 people died from carbon monoxide poisoning in 1987-96.

Driving seat

Roy Barsley, 56, a Labour councillor banned from driving for 21 months for being twice over the drink limit, will continue to chair Nottinghamshire's police advisory committee, which backed a Christmas campaign against drink-driving.

Refugee death

The body of a suspected illegal immigrant from Iraq has been found at Dover ferry terminal. Police believe he was a Kurd-ish refugee who had been holding on under a lorry. Three Ira-qi Kurds have been detained by immigration officers.

Murder charge

A man was been remanded in custody, charged with the mur-der of Christopher Swales, 15, whose body was found on a beach. Neil Walgate, 32, of Skegness, appeared before magistrates in the town.

Forger jailed

A 25-year-old graphics student was jailed for two years for making forged E5 and E10 notes to buy heroin. Lee Dudley, of Huthwaite, Nottingham-shire, admitted having counterfeiting materials with intent at Nottingham Crown Court.

Cotswolds USA

A ranch owner in Atlanta, Georgia, has ordered 400 tonnes of Cotswold stone - a record shipment to the United States - for a wall around his land. The stone, from a company in Northleach, Gloucester-

Thatcher joins a bastion of **Englishness**

aged them." His choice for the

actor to portray his farmer-turned-poet father would be

Adrian Bell died in 1990.

His son says that, although he is sad that his father did not

live to see the translation of his

work to the television screen,

he is relieved that he did not

witness the final destruction of

English agriculture as he had

TO SOME, she is the quintes badicea. To others she stands for everything that England should not be in the touchy-feely age of new La-bour. To the Royal Society of St George, Baroness Thatcher

Lady Thatcher has accepted an invitation to join the society, which has 10,000 members and is dedicated to "England and Englishness", but is "about patriotism rather than nationalism".

The society, founded in 1894 to offer support to the sons of England scattered across the Empire, now runs a charitable trust providing funds for outh and community projects to foster "duty, loyalty

and service to Engla Lady Thatcher joins a line of vice-presidents with impec-cably English credentials, including the Dake of Westminster, the present Duke of Wellington, Earl Nelson of Trafalgar and Merton, and Field Marshal Lord Bramall, a former Chief of the General

ant of Greater London. William Firth, chairman of the society, said yesterday that Lady Thatcher exemplified the English trait of determination, but denied that his socie-ty was right-wing or in any way politically active.

Staff and now Lord-Lieuten-

I am a unionist, and I dislike Little Englanders. The esability to absorb other people



Lady Thatcher: helped amputee football team

DEF C

S .

of continuity." he said. The real reason that Lady society, Mr Firth discloses ter, she offered personal her and encouragement to the England Amputee Pootball Club, which the society was sponsoring at the time. When one of its players died of cancer, she wrote a particularly

touching letter of condolence The society believes in "po-lite patriotism". Should it not to John Major, whose English vision of warm beer and village cricket was a good deal more polite than his predecessor's obsession with poll tar and there being no such thing

Mind you, she did try the first out on the Scots, and sa the second to an audience in Edinburgh. Trust the English to offload their dafter ideas on

London appoints a 'drugs czar'

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

A VETERAN of the Leah Betts case has been recruited by Scotland Yard to become the first anti-drugs co-ordinator

Commander Andy Hay-man, 39, takes control of a new directorate at the Yard as police research shows a third of suspects arrested in London have drug links. Initial figures from stations across London show that a high percentage of crimes involving shoplifting house burglary and thefts from cars, are linked to drugs. Mr Hayman, who will today unveil a £250,000 poster and radio advertising cam-paign on the links between drugs and crime, was recruited by Sir Paul Condon, the

Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, from the Essex force within a few weeks of completing a senior officers training course. He initiated anti-drugs cam-

paigns after the death of Leah

Betts from Ecstasy in 1995. He Lords committee looking addrugs, helped to set up an award-winning schools programme and is now working part-time on an MSc in crimi

nology at Cambridge. His drugs directorate, one of only two in the country, will have four senior officers working on assessing the extent of drug use and targeting dealers and markets. There were 34.713 drug convictions in London between April 1997 and April 1998.

Mr Hayman said that he planned to develop drug referral schemes so that suspects who had identifiable problems

could receive treatment. He said that he planned to scrap the traditional "talk and chalk approach of classroom lectures and make greater use of techniques such as road shows and pop music shows

مكذابن زلامل:

Payout adds to anguish in Dunblane

A TEACHER who helped to identify dead and injured chil-dren after the Dunblane massacre has been awarded compensation for mental trauma, while some bereaved families have yet to receive a penny.

Linda Stewart, 48, a nursery teacher, has received an interim payment from the Crimi-Injuries Compensation Board. A parent of a child who died said that he and other families were still waiting to hear about their claims.

The CICB confirmed that it has so far paid out £2.8 million in awards to 131 individuals from Dunblane, 80 for psychological trauma. Of the 300 applications made, 38 cases were rected and 131 are still being sidered, a spokesman said.

two, has not worked since the March 1996 shootings in which 16 children and their teacher, Gwen Mayor, died. Mrs Stewart, one of five

members of staff who went on arrived in the gym minutes after the shooting and tended the wounded and dying children until ambulances arrived. As a former teacher of the Primary One class, she was asked by police to help to identify bodies of the victims. Speaking to a newspaper yesterday, she said that she sufTeacher is given compensation,

but bereaved families are still waiting, reports

Shirley English

fered flashbacks and nightmares and rarely got to sleep before 3am. She could not light a match because the smell reminded her of gunsmoke and was tormented by feelings of guilt that she could have done more to help.

"I will never be able to work again. Teaching was my dream job. My life has been ruined and all I want to do is turn back the clock. No amount of compensation would help to put things

right," Mrs Stewart said.
"It's a dreadful thing to say, but 1'm now terrified of children. We were very close to the

little ones." Yesterday the people of Dun-blane were reluctant to talk about compensation, but there was an underlying sense of bitterness that Mrs Stewart's comments had put the town back in the spotlight. One per-

to the emergency services. Lisa Potts, the nursery nurse

tack at St Luke's school in Wolverhampton, received £6,000 for her injuries. In Dumblane, families of the

teaching union, the Educational institute of Scotland welcomed news of Mrs Stewart's

and calm here recently, and A bereaved father said that

he was still waiting to hear whether his family would get compensation. "I have nothing against the woman receiving compensation because of what she went through: I wouldn't wish that on anyone. But many families had to identify the dead bodies of their own children and have not received any compensation."

A number of teachers who helped in the gym in the aftermath of the tragedy went back to work immediately and struggled on regardless, one source said. "She was not the only person in the gym who had to do a traumatic job. A lot of people could all talk about what happened to them, but

they don't."
Edward McKeown, CICB operations manager, said: "A person who is permanently disabled by mental injury will get around £20,000. An appropriate amount will be added for loss of earnings and any care costs which are incurred. This could bring the total compen-sation up to half a million pounds."

After the Lockerbie disaster a number of payouts were made for psychological trauma to those who witnessed the aftermath of the tragedy. The bulk of the recipients belonged

injured while trying to protect children from a machete at-

dead and injured received awards from the E4.5 million Dunblane Fund and the £2 million Stirling Observer Fund set up to deal with the flood of unsolicited donations that poured into the town from around the world. Yesterday Scotland's largest



Suffering artist sees career take off

FOR Chris Burden, art is about tak-ing risks. In the cause of art, he has asked a friend to shoot him; be has given himself electric shocks and he has languished in a jammed lift for four days.

But when the American mounts the first British exhibition of his 30-year career, for once he will not be in personal danger. Eyebrows, however, will still be raised.

The Tate Gallery in London is to ex-hibit a "factory" installation that will manufacture model planes from balsa wood, tissue paper and plastic and launch one every two minutes. Some 22,000 planes, with 12in wingspans. are expected to be launched into the Duveen Galleries. When they land, visitors can buy them for £5.

The artist hopes the public will discard crashed models across London. "Hopefully, they will fly them right away and create a lot of litter around the Tate. It will be a signpost for what's going on inside."

Burden says of the work, When Robots Rule: The Two-Minute Airplane Factory: "It's a functioning model of industrial capitalism. You: have the factory, the marketing of the Man who had himself shot in the name of art plans to litter Tate Gallery with 22,000

model aircraft, reports Dalya Alberge

airplanes, the production of the airplanes. Are we overproducing, underproducing? Can we sell enough? Almost everything we handle or touch was made in a factory, yet we have no idea of how it happens. This is a visual factory, in the sense that you get to

see the method of production."

The Tate describes the work, on show from March 2, as "entertaining, ingenious and provocative". Through toys, Burden is aiming to demystify 20th-century science.

The artist, who was born in 1946 in Boston, made his name with performance art of a distinctly sadomasochistic nature. In 1971 as a student at the University of California, he shut himself in a locker measuring 2ft by 3ft for five days, drinking water from a bottle in the locker above him and urinating into one below. Also that year he subjected himself to electric shocks in a work called Doorway to Heaven: and pushed them into his chest. Next came Back to You, which involved having drawing-pins pushed into his body while sitting shirtless in a lift. In Deadman, he covered himself

with a tarbaulin and lay on a Los Angeles motorway — only to be arrested for causing a false emergency to be reported. By 1974 he was lying on the back of a Volkswagen and having nails driven through his palms.

Burden denies he is a mere stuntman and some works have contained. overt political comment. In his installation The Reason for the Neutron Bomb, 1979, 50.000 coins, each with a matchstick glued to it, were meant to represent the number of tanks controlled by the Soviet Union.

But the critics know him best for the Shoot incident of 1973, in which he received a nasty bullet wound when he stood against a gallery wall and was shot by a friend with a rifle. He still has a scar on his arm.

While the public may have been appalled, reviewers were impressed. One wrote: "Burden's early performances were essentially private acts. but they dealt with taboos that struck a vulnerable chord in the consciousness of witnesses and in the imaginations of people who have only heard verbal accounts of Burden's actions." Another suggested that "actual experience — getting himself shot in the arm, for instance, is a primal answer to the problem of metaphor in art".

Yesterday Burden, who now lives in Los Angeles, said of Shoot: "It was like a scientific experiment. I was trying to examine what it feels like to be shot. It's about controlling fate, trying to manage the unmanageable and the unthinkable. It's about turning towards the dragon, as opposed to turning your back on it." He added: "It was horrific to look at my arm and see a smoking hole."

Burden says his work has been inspired by artists such as Duchamp and Picasso and, in that sense, is "very traditional". With the aircraft factory. it has also become rather safer.

Champagne reopening for tin mine

MINERS from around the world have been applying for jobs at a tin mine that reopened yesterday ten months after it closed with the loss of 300 jobs.

The new owner of the 2000ft South Crofty pit near Redruth, Cornwall, said he had received job applications from as far afield as Brazil and South Africa. Wilf Hughes said response from miners wanting to work at the pit had been "absolutely amazing".

Mr Hughes, a Welsh min-ing entrepreneur, led a march of local people to the mine, where there was a champagne celebration for the revival of Burope's last tin pit. He bought the mine in a £625,000 deal with David Giddings. South Crofty's managing direc-tor and major shareholder.

Mark Kaczmarek, a former mer and union shop steward, said at the pit gates that it was an emotional day for Cornish people. However, before work can start, the flooded areas of the mine will have to

be pumped out. Since being

closed, the mine has flooded to

a depth of 800ft and it is esti-

mated that it will cost about

£1 million to pump out.

Travel the world next year – by racing yacht

By Elizabeth Judge

ADVENTURERS of all sorts were challenged by Sir Robin Knox-Johnston yesterday to compete next year in the world's longest ocean race. Sir Robin, chairman of Clip-

per Ventures and race director of The Times Clipper 2000 round-the-world contest, is looking for crews for up to 12 yachts to take part in the 36,000-mile event. Speaking at the London International Boat Show, he confirmed that the race would start and finish in Portsmouth, leaving next Octo-

The yachts will cross the Atlantic three times and also cross the Pacific and Indian Oceans and race through the East and South China Seas, returning in August 2001. They will visit Cuba, Shanghai and the Galapagos Islands, and spend New Year's Eve heading for Hawaii.

Sir Robin said the 14-strong crews would be led by professional skippers. Applicants can join them for one or more of the six legs of the race.

He said that many people wanted something different to do with their lives "and sailing

(DIRECT LINE)

around the world is seen as one of the great things to do. There is a certain danger but that is what gives you a sense

of achievement. What is going to be so exciting is that it will give people a chance to get behind their teams and their city as they compete against their rival."

Towns and cities are being isked to sponsor a participating boat. They will pay £100,000 to put their names on the side of one of the 60ft clippers. It is hoped that each of the crew on the yacht will be from that town. The crew's families and friends will be able to follow their progress in The Times and on a website.

raise between £6,000 and

£23.500, depending upon how

Each leg will take between five days and 31/2 weeks and the winner of The Times Trophy will be decided according to the accumulated points. Applicants, who must be aged at least 18, will have to

many legs they choose to compete in. About 500 people are being sought.

The competitors, to be selected by Clipper Ventures, will not have to be experienced sailors as everyone will be given rigorous training.

The round-the-world race takes place every two years; this is the first to be sponsored by The Times. The currrent Clipper 1998 race is nearing

the end of the second leg.

Colin de Mowbray, the project manager, said: This race is open to people from every walk of life. One competitor in the last race sold her horse and remortgaged her house so that she could take part." Representatives from towns

and cities considering sponsoring a yacht are at the boat show this week for briefings. Patrick Sheriff, marketing director of Times Newspapers. said that the race offered "a great promotional opportunity for the cities, but also a compelling sporting platform from which to take on their rivals". ☐ For information on The Times Clipper 2000, telephone 01234 711550 or see the website http://www.clipper-ventures.

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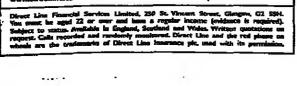
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Minder 'shook child for crying'

A FIVE-MONTH-OLD baby was left with permanent brain damage after being deliberate-ly shaken by a childminder in a "flash of anger", a court was

Shirley Clemons caused the baby girl, who cannot be identified, a "devastating" brain injury. Coventry Crown Court

Julia Macur, for the prosecution, alleged that Mrs Clemons, 48, wanted to hurt the baby because she was crying or being disruptive while in

her care last March. The injured child — who now suffers from a form of cerebral palsy, epilepsy and has was taken to hospital after Mrs Clemons dialled 999. Miss Macur said: "Mrs

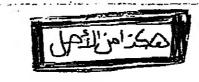
Clemons injured [the baby]

most probably in a flash of anger, but nevertheless intended to do her really serious bodily harm." She added that the baby would "never be a normal child".

The jury was told that Mrs Clemons, described as a worn-an of good character with many years' experience as a childminder, claimed that she shook the child to resuscitate her after she stopped breath-

Miss Macur said: "This was a momentary lapse; this was rage, and in that rage Mrs Clemons's qualifications as a good and careful childminder went out of the window."

Mrs Clemons, of Coventry, denies causing grievous bodily harm with intent and a charge of child cruelty. The trial con-



The Chancellor doth protest too much, methinks

back to Gordon Brown. His Edinburgh speech was the most coherent statement of what Downing Street is eager not to call a relaunch. despite this week's reheating of several familiar initiatives and the desperate attempt to address public worries about the NHS. The speech was intriguing both for what Mr Brown said, and what he did not

Reflecting the current febrile mood, Mr Brown felt it necessary to pay an extravagant tribute to Tony Blair in terms that would not have shamed Stalin's Politburo - his "historic achievement", his "leadership", "measure of Tony Blair's suc-

n the end, everything that mat-ters in this Government comes cellor protests too much. Mr Blair cellor protests too much. Mr Blair and he agree on most policies, far more than John Major did with either Norman Lamont or Kenneth Clarke. The problem has been rather mood music, and the jarrying notes of some acolytes.

Mr Brown remains the unrivalled ideologist of new Labour, even if his rhetoric sometimes runs away with itself in elaborate contrasts. His theme was the changed role of government, as expander of individual opportunity. In particular, he foreshadowed new initiatives in his spring Budget: on com-petition policy to tackle restrictive practices and opening up industries to new entrants, on making the tax

system work better to encourage research and development, science and innovation and entrepreneurship, on tackling the employment needs of men aged over 55 and on expanding lifelong educa-

All this is, of course, micro-economic. Having made the Bank of England responsible for set- RIDDELL ting interest rates and set a fiscal framework for the ON POLITICS next three years, Mr Brown believes that his role is now

primarily to improve the structure of the economy, the supply side. Strangely for the first speech of the year by a Chancellor of the Exchequer, he did not mention the

not discuss whether he now thinks the downturn this year is likely to be deeper, and the recovery next year slower, than he forecast in ear-

> ter is crucial to the sustainability of his public spending plans. Mr Brown also maintained his curious silence on the euro. For someone

ly November. The lat-

who sees no objection in principle to sterling's entry, he has been oddly reticent so far this year on the launch of the euro. It was a mistake that no British minister attended the official launch onaffecting Britain" were being discussed was uncomfortably reminiscent of the damagingly dismissive Whitehall attitude of the 1950s towards early European integration. Mr Brown needs to step up public contacts with other European finance ministers if he wants to smooth the path towards British

participation in monetary union in

two or three years.

is political aim yesterday was to answer criticisms that new Labour has nothing to do with principle, "that polities is a matter only of personalities rather than policies, that style can

nation that no "substantive issues" what separates parties is far less than what unites them".

This week's announcements and speeches should knock on the head the idea that new Labour is just presentational froth. But such activity does not answer the question of whether this model of government activism and central regulation will produce improved public services without having higher taxes. The Blair Government is not about to come apart. The Tories will get nowhere suggesting it is and they should narrow the focus of their at-

Far more important is whether the Government can deliver on the demanding goals that Mr Brown

Secret talks may produce new laws on polls

By JAMES EANDALE POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW rules governing the way referendents are held could be come law this year after secret talks between the Tories and the Government.

Tory MPs will today mived plans to use a Private Member's Bill to introduce a basic code of conduct for future polls. The References Bill will be brought forward by Ardrew Robathan. Tory MP for Biaby, who came fourth in the ballot of MPs seeking transpoduce their own legislation this

ession. Oliver Letwin, a Tory constisession. tutional spokesman, has been holding talks with George Howarth, the jurior Home Office Minister, to seek cross-party agreement on the way forward. The Tories claim have secured broad agreement on several key issues, including that the two opposing sides in a referendum have equal access to public funds and to television airtime. Discussions are also continuing about how rules could be drawn up to prevent referendum questions being loaded.

reached on whether there should be a cap on spending.

Home Office sources said that although the Government was happy to help and provide advice, no formal agreement had yet been reached on the text of any Bill. They anded that the Government was planning to publish its own draff Bill this summer to implement the recommendations about referendums made by the Neill Committee on Standards

No consensus has been

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THE TABLE

Papar ise

in Public Life We are not keen on a piecemeal approach towards the issue," one official said. "We are happy to help out but are likely to take a neutral position towards any Bill the Toties

Brown rallies to Blair's side

Fightback begins with fulsome praise of party leader, write Jill Sherman and Jason Allardyce

day mounted a strong defence of new Labour and heaped praise on Tony Blair in a bid to reassure the public that there was no rift between

The Chancellor, in his first public comments since the resignations of Peter Mandelson. Geoffrey Robinson and Char-lie Whelan, his press aide, made clear that he fully supported the Prime Minister's goal to modernise and trans-

form the party.
"As Tony Blair recognised only a transformed party willing to think anew can transform the country for a new era." he said. "His historic achievement is to harness enduring British values, Labour values, to the challenges of the new economy and by breaking with past programmes, develop a new direction of the coming decade - an economy that is strong and a society that is

The Chancellor, who is said to have been desolate over Mr Whelan's departure, went out of his way to endorse new Labour as he led a Cabinet fightback to get the Government

back on track. Mr Whelan was absent from the the business breakfast in Scotland addressed by Mr Brown and was believed to be working at the Treasury office in London. Mr Brown was accompanied only by Sue Nye,

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his personal assistant, and his speech was written in part by Douglas Alexander, his advis-

er and MP for Paisley.

Mr Brown scotched reports that he was forging a closer alliance with John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, by making clear that he did not support greater intervention

in industry.

He underlined that the new Labour label had sometimes been misinterpreted by the party and the public to be more about style than substance. In what was seen as a slight dig at those who are too enthusiastic about cosying up to the Lib-eral Democrats, he also hinted that there were big policy dif-ferences between them.

'All of us in new Labour reject the view that politics has nothing to do with principle; that ideas are less important than unprincipled pragmatism, that politics is a matter only of personalities rather than policies, that style can substitute for substance, and that what separates parties is far less that what unites

He announced that the New Deal would be extended to the over-50s and signalled that there would be tax measures in the Budget to help research and development and small

He said: "Around one third of men between 50 and 65 have no jobs; many have been



Gordon Brown addressing the meeting in Edinburgh yesterday: he said new Labour had been misinterpreted to be more about style than substance

denied chances to get jobs after being made redundant. For the over-55s it is 40 per cent so it is time to give special attention to their employment needs and the next Budget will." Already the New Deal is helping i80,000 young people and is being extended this year

to help more of the long-term unemployed and disabled. He also indicated that the Budget would include plans for greater competition and new enterprise. "In particular we need to tackle restrictive

practices and open up competi-

tion-to-new entrants and this

we will continue to do." It would also include measures to encourage innovation and science to ensure that technoiogical and commercial opportunities could be taken.

Michael Gove, page 16 Leading article, page 17

Lending rates are applicable to the accounts set out below. EU farm reform

By MICHAEL HORNSBY

food bills

will cut

GRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT THE reform of European Un-ion farm subsidies would cut annual household food bills by £18 a person, it was claimed yesterday. Nick Brown, the Agriculture Minister, told a government-convened conference in London that the reforms, due to be adopted in late March, would also be good for taxpayers

and farmers. "The present structures actually build in the creation of surpluses for some products, he told the food and farming industries, consumer group and environmentalists. Mr Brown said he would be sending a questionnaire to farmers views on the propos als and the Government's response. "I want everyone involved in the industry to have the way in which the common agricultural policy reform should be implemented in

this country," he said. At present, British farmer receive about £3 billion in EU subsidies a year. The ministry estimates that this costs about £3 per person per week in higher food prices and £1 per person per week in extra taxes. The proposed reforms would cut guaranteed prices for beef, cereals and milk by up to 30 per cent.Farmers would be partly compensated by an increase in cash payats linked to farm size.



Brown: said farmers will be asked for their views

Change to Interest Rates. With effect from the start of business on 12th January 1999 the following Business Chaque, Deposit and

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£100,000-249,999	4.96	4.85	4.70	4.60	3.68
£25,000-99,999	4.70	4.60	4.44	4.35	3.48
£10,000-24,999	4.18	4.10	3.92	3.85	3.08
£1-9,999	1.26	1.25	1.00	1.00	0.80
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£250,000+	4.91	4.80	4.65	4.55	3.64
£100,000-249,999	4.70	4.60	4.44	4.35	3.48
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£10,000-24,999	4.02	3.95	3.76	3.70	2.96
£1-9,999	2.78	2.75	2.53	2.50	2.00
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£50,000-99,999	1.71	1.70	1.46	1.45	1.16
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£2,000-9,999	1.05	1.05	0.75		
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حيكذاءن زلامل

US jets fire on Iraqi missiles

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK AND MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

The Pope reads his "state of the world" address

Pope condemns airstrikes as solving nothing

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

TWO weeks before he is due. to meet an embattled President Clinton, the Pope yes-terday rebuked the United States and Britain for their bombing raids on Iraq last month, saying the attacks had solved nothing. If anything, they had made mat-

Giving his annual "state of the world" address to diplomats, the Pope said that war "does not solve problems, it only complicates them, and leaves the civilian population to bear the tragic-

consequences".

He did not single out the US or Britain by name. But he said: "International law cannot be the law of the strongest, or of a simple majority of states, or even of an ... It must be a law which

conforms to the principles of natural and moral law, which are always binding on parties in conflict and the various issues in dispute."

The Pope, 78, sets off for Mexico on January 22 and is scheduled to make a stopover in St Louis, Missouri,

Clinton. Yesterday he ap-peared preoccupied with ten-sions in the Middle East —

a region in which our religious traditions are rooted". The Pope deplored the hia-tus in the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, noting that "it is not possible to keep people indefinitely between war and peace without the ing tension and violence".

He said it would be unwise to delay tackling the status of Jerusalem any fur-ther Only honest dialogue, a real concern for the welfare of people and respect for the international order could bring lasting solutions to a region where Islam, Judaism and Christianity all had their roots.

In a wide-ranging speech in French he called for peace in the Balkans, urging the Serbs and ethnic Albanians of Kosovo to meet round a table to defuse without delay the armed suspicion which paralyses and kills". He expressed concern about insta-bility in Africa, noting that 17 of its 53 nation states were

AMERICAN warplanes fired on Iraqi missile batteries yesterday in two attacks as tension escalated with a defiant Baghdad. in one incident, two US

FISE strike aircraft attacked a near Mosul in another, an Fi6 fighter fired a High Speed Anti-Radiation (Harm) mis-sile. Both incidents apparently occurred after the aircraft were illuminated by Iraqi radar during routine patrols of the northern no-fly 20ne.

After days of menacing in-vective from Baghdad, Kuwait has placed part of its military on full alert. Iraq has accused the emirate, along with Saudi Arabia, of betrayal for allow-ing British and US airstrikes from their territory and demanded compensation.

The Kuwaiti decision was

announced after an emergen-cy meeting of the Defence Council, which also discussed plans to call up reservists. The move was seen as symbolic given Kuwait's reliance on US muscle for its protection. "Kuwait is a small country and we army spokesman said.

fessed to plotting against Kuwait for Iraq, the paper said. The US planes returned safe-ly to their base in Turkey. The

Pentagon said it had no immediate information on the damage to the Iraqi sites.
US officials reported that iraq had moved new air defence units into the no-fly zones and Washington had doubled to 16 the number of

cannot take any risks," an It was reported by a Kuwaiti newspaper that 25 "Arabs" had been arrested carrying anti-government leaflets calling for a revolution. They con-

planes on patrol. They said that American and British planes would continue to monitor the no-fly zones despite Iraqi opposition to the patrols.

"The coalition will continue to ring to President Saddam Husenforce the no-fly zones vigorously. These provocations are a reminder of the threat that Saddam poses to the region and the need for vigilance in containing that threat," a National Security Council spokes

The attacks were the latest in a series of clashes in the nofly zones over northern and southern Iraq. Last Thursday. an F16 fired at another missile battery, and two days earlier four US jets shot at, but missed, Iraqi planes that had breached the flight ban.

Iraq's defiance forms part of a broader challenge to the US and Britain — and their Arab:

Saddam is raising the stakes to keep Iraq on the international agenda?

allies - since the two powers launched Operation Desert Fox last month.

Security at Western embas-sies and American military facilities in Kuwait has been intensified, while Washington said it would act militarily if Iraq retaliated against Kuwait or Saudi Arabia for last month's raids.

However, Iraq's capacity to pose a military threat to Kuwait is questionable, given its inability to provide air cover and the Anglo-American firepower arrayed against its troops. "He's raising the stakes to keep Iraq on the international agenda," said an Arab envoy in the Gulf, refer-

Threatening Kuwait does that, but it also unites countries against him."

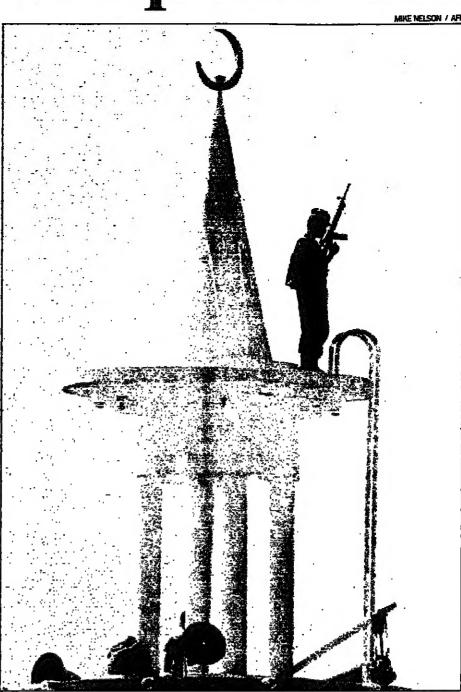
وي زمن رائيمل

While Operation Desert Fox appears only to have emboldened the Iraqi leader, his ac-tions can also be viewed as a sign of frustration as he attempts to demonstrate his ability to continue to seize the initiative. Washington said he had lost key military aides in the airstrikes, and there have been reports of purges and executions of suspect officers. Defections have also cominued on an almost daily basis. "Something bappened in southern lraq during Desert Fox. Whether it was an attempted coup or not is not yet clear," an Iragi source said.

Saddam appears to believe that threats against Kuwait and Saudi Arabia will persuade them not to allow America and Britain to use bases on their territory for future air-strikes, which many in Baghdad believe could come when the Muslim holy month of Ramadan ends later this month.

However, any perceived Iraqi threat to Kuwait could backfire on Saddam by alienating France, Russia and China, its sympathisers on the United Nations Security Council. Washington could also use it to reinforce the no-fly zone in southern Iraq with a no-drive zone. Iraqi opposition groups have long called for a ban on Saddam's tanks in the restive,

Shia dominated south. Saudi Arabia, which called on Sunday for Saddam's overthrow, unveiled an initiative to relax the crippling UN embar-go on Iraq by allowing the imports of everything but mili-tary equipment and material. The offer, to be discussed by minister from the Gulf Co-operation Council later this month, was dismissed by Iraq



A soldier stands guard on a mosque minaret in Kuwait City after the military alert

Kibbutz row rocks 'Jesus boat' plan for Vatican display

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

PLANS to move a famous relic known as the "Jesus boat" from the Sea of Galilee in Israel to the Vatican for a millennium exhibition has sparked a fierce row among Israelis. Members of the kibbutz where the

2.000 year old vessel - missing its bow, stern and sides - was discov-

claimed that the move would wreck the artefact and the collective farm's lucrative tourism business.

Israel's Education Ministry and a senior member of the Knesset joined the growing chorus of protests, demanding that the Antiquities Authority, which has been negotiating the exhibition with the Varican for the past three years, scrap its plans.

sion," said Avi Yehezkel, chairman of the Knesset sub-committee on tourism. "It will hurt tourism to Israel and it will damage the boat itself."

Experts believe that the boat was probably used during the Roman period to ferry supplies along the in-land Sea of Galilee, where the Scriptures say that Jesus walked on the water. Only a shell, about 13 ft long and 614 ft wide remains of the boat, which

never directly linked to Jesus. Archaeologists believe that the design is the same as boats used in the Mediterraneanaround the time of the New Tes-

Defending the decision to move the boat, Amir Drori, head of the Antiquities Authority, maintained that an international group of restoration ex-perts had determined that no real harm would come to the vessel.

grims. "Until now, no more than 70.000 pilgrims a year have come to see the boat," he argued. If it was exhibited for three months in the hall where the Pope receives pilgrims, it could be seen by millions. "Afterwards every pilgrim who comes to Israel will see the permanent exhibition from April 2000 until the end of

Holy Land in time for an expected

summer influx of millennium pil-



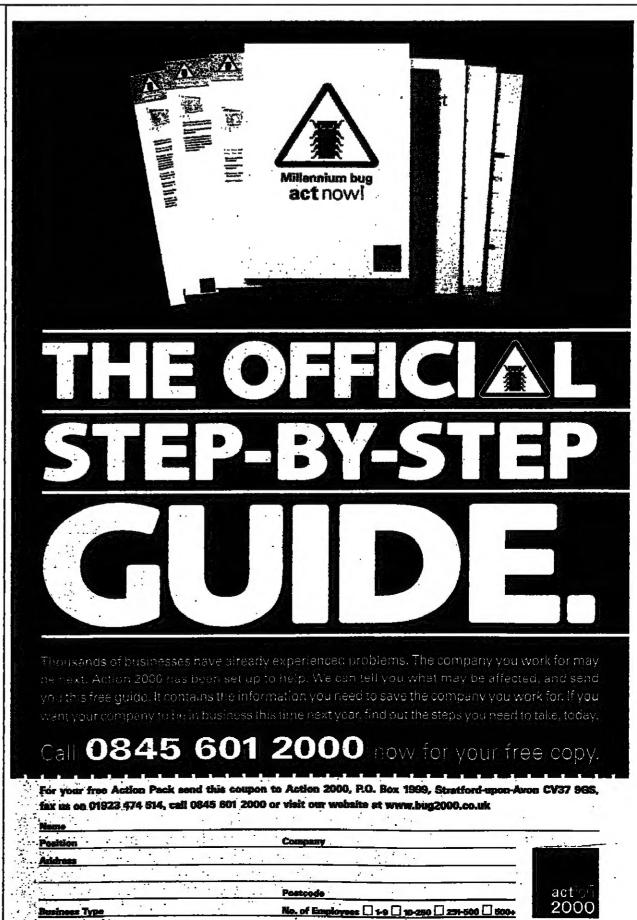
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Guardians of the lost Ark keep the faith

fans of Steven Spielberg's Raiders of the Lost Ark might tell you, people have been searching for the lost Ark of the Covenant.

In Ethiopia, however, the search for the legendary chest containing the Ten Commandments never began. For the Ethiopians believe that the Holy Ark has been been with them all along, or at least since it was removed from Jerusalem hundreds of years before the birth of Christ.

In mid-January the faithful of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church will gather for their most important festival, Tim-kat, which commemorates the baptism of Christ. Nowhere will the festival be celebrated with greater ceremony than in Axum, the oldest and most sacred of Ethiopian towns. It is here that Ethiopians believe the Ark is held.

On the eve of Timkat and on Timkat itself, January 19, the Ark will be displayed to the faithful of Axum. Of course, it will not be the real Ark, which is considered too powerful for humans to behold. Ethiopia's most treasured relic never leaves the chapel where it is guarded night and day.

Instead, a tabot or symbolic representation will be used. Here in Axum, and all over Ethiopia, tabots wrapped in brocade will be paraded amid great rejoicing, singing and

David Orr in ancient Axum

> investigates a biblical conundrum

the stone tablets on which God inscribed the law were placed in the Ark by Moses. Its power helped the Israelities to defeat their enemies and they carried it with them to the Promised Land. The Ark was installed in a temple in Jerusalem by King Solomon. Then it suddenly disappeared.

No one knows why but after the time of Solomon (970-931 BC), the Ark is almost never mentioned in the Old Testa-ment. The Ethiopians claim to have the answer to the riddle.

The venerated relic is kept in a chapel beside the church of St Mary of Zion. I was taken there by Deacon Fiseha Asfaw who told me the story of the Ark. This accorded with the main points of the legend as I had heard it but also varied from it in parts. As he was telling it, my guide from the National Tourist Office more than once whispered: 'That bit is not true."

A thousand years before the birth of Christ - so ran the deacon's account - the Queen

to show him the Ark. From his nose the patriarch discharged blood," said the deacon. "He came a sec-ond time and again he tried to persuade the guardian to show him the Ark. The guardian hesitated and he, too, was punished by the angels. Blood came from his nose. He was sick and he died some months afterwards. After suffering many years, the patriarch also

pia to Jerusalem where she conceived a child by King Solo-mon. That child was Menelik

and as a young man he, too, travelled from Ethiopia to Jerusalem. He stayed there for some years with his father. When he left, he took with him the Ark of the Covenant. Solonomer approximate account to the terms of the terms

mon apparently accepted that its removal had been sanc-

The Ark was brought to Ethi-

opia, said the deacon, and be-

fore the birth of Christ in-

stalled in a temple near Axum.

During the reign of the late Emperor Haile Selassie it was

placed in the new chapel be-lore which the deacon and I

Inside, a door, draped with

a cloth, is flanked by two tall

windows with turquoise frames. The edifice is sur-

mounted by a turquoise dome. Inside a priest stands guard in-

side a fence.
"Aba Teklemarjam has

been looking after the Ark for

nearly four years and he is the

only one allowed to see it," the deacon said. "The former guardian was rebuked by the

Ark because God was dis-

pleased with him. Many times

asked what had happened

The deacon said he had him-

self witnessed the Ark's power.

One of the previous guardi-

ans, he said, had been urged

by a fermer patriarch of the

Ethiopian Orthodox Church

but he would not tell me."

tioned by God.

now stood.

I asked Aba Gabregiorgis, guardian of the church's treasury, if he was worried about a border dispute with Eritrea again erupting into war. "We have the power of the Ark on our side and God will protect the Ark and Ethiopia," he



Bligh and his crew of loyal seamen being cast adrift from the Bounty by Fletcher Christian and the mutineers

Cannon of Bligh's mutineers is raised from wreck of Bounty

NET LINKS

www.library.puc.ede/pitcalm/ -- the Pitcalm Islands Study Centre

Australians uncover another secret from an enduring seafaring saga, writes Roger Maynard in Sydney

AN AUSTRALIAN team of marine archaeologists was yesterday celebrating the retrieval of one of the cannon from the wreck of HMS Bounty, at its final resting place off Pitcairn Island in the South Pacific.

The expedition, from James Cook University in Townsville, was assisted by residents of the island in building an intricate air-powered lifting device to raise the

They used the machine to extricate the L764lb cannon from 200 years of marine growth, Nigel Erskine, the team leader, announced from the smallest remaining British overseas territory. He said the operation was achieved under complex and demanding sea conditions in Pitcairn's Bounty Bay. The expedition, which began in Sep-tember, was designed to shed fresh light on one of history's most enduring seafaring sagas. The wreck of HMS Bounty, which carried Fletcher Christian and his muti-neers to Pitcairn in 1789 so that they could avoid being recaptured by the British, has been slowly eroded by the Pacific surf, but part of the timber and many of the vessel's

artefects lie buried in sand. One of the mutineers, apparently terrified that the Royal Navy would find them, set fire to the Bounty, allowing



is well-documented, but may well have been against Chrisresearchers are hoping to find evidence of personal possessions on the wreck, which would suggest that the blaze

was quick and surprised the rest of the crew. So far the

sent the HMS Pandora to capture the mutineers but Christian and his band hiding on Pitcairn were never found by the Pandora's crew. Mr Erskine, a postgradu-ale student at James Cook

Admiralty justice.

University, is keen to know how such a modey crew of subversives mixed with Poly-

team has retrieved rigging, hull timbers, cannon balls

The Australians have also

excavated the original house

of John Adams, who was

found by a whaling vessel in

1808. He kept no written records and gave differing ac-counts of his time there to

visiting sailors.
Christian and the seven men who led the mutiny against Captain William Bligh had sailed the Bounty

from Tahiti to escape British

Apart from Adams, they all died within a few years. Poly-

nesians murdered five of

them. The British Admiralty

and grapesbot.

Russians lured by promise of US servitude

Make or

DISENCHANTED with the worsening economic situation in Russia, many of the counmy's newly unemployed are fleeing to America to work as servants for rich expatriate

work abroad, hundreds of highly qualified people have parted with the hefty fee demanded by the illegal agencies and have accepted jobs as housekeepers, nannies and gardeners thousands of miles from home.

Wealthy Russians who have established themselves in Amestablished themselves in Ante-erica are notoriously loath to employ the Filipino staff fa-voured by their US counts parts, according to Segodnya newspaper. They are also keen for their children to be cared for by Russian speakers. Al-though the agencies take a £70 joining fee and the first four weeks' wages, the work, at around £150 a week plus bed and board, is far more higrative than anything available at home, where the average

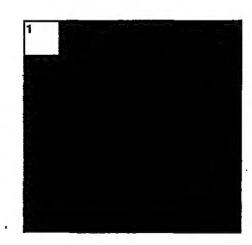
wage is less than £50 a month. "I have two children and my husband can't find work. says Olga Tarasov, who has just signed up with an agency that she hopes will find he do mestic work not too far from New York. "My cousin is a nanny for a Russian family in New York and the agence promised me I wouldn't have problems getting a visa if I was leaving my children be-

Segodnya cited the case of woman identified only as Irina who earned thousands of dollars working as a house-keeper for a Russian-American family and returned to Russia to start her own employment agency. The newspa-per described Irina's light workload and heavy pay pack-et with awe. It said the family she served always are ready-made food that needed only to be heated up and that they owned so many hi-tech domes tic appliances that Irina barely had to exert herself at all.



Worshippers carrying the Ark of the Covenant in this illustration by Jean Fouquet (circa 1425-80)

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China rights talks doomed, dissident says

Beijing: A pioneer of China's democracy struggle said yesterday he saw little hope of progress in Chinese-American talks on human rights because for the Beijing leadership, 1999 was "a special year" in terms of political symbolism (James Pringle writes). The talks resumed in Washington yesterday in a gloomy mood after a fiveyear hiatus and in the middle of a political

crackdown in China. "It's the tenth anniversary of Tianan-

men suppression, the twentieth anniversary of Democracy Wall and the liftieth anniversary of the Communists coming to power," said Ren Wanding, 53, a veteran dissident who is also connected to the formation of a new democratic party that Beijing views as a challenge to the Commu-

nist Party's monopoly on power.

Mr Ren said that the Chinese economy was depressed and millions of workers were being laid off. "The more difficult the

economic situation is, the more harshly they will treat dissidents."

China broke off the talks in mid-1994, after American human rights officials met the dissident, Wei Jingsheng, during a vis-it to Beijing. Mr Wei is now an exile in

1000

Air force curs in

Russia attached

President Jiang Zemin agreed to resume the dialogue during his summit with President Clinton last year, but has now pledged to nip dissent in the bud.



Myles Tierney, 34, an AP television cameraman killed on Sunday by rebels in Freetown, with locals last year

New assault on Freetown rebels

By Michael Binyon, Diplomatic editor

FIERCE fighting flared up again in Freetown yesterday as Nigerian-led intervention forces launched a counterattack to drive rebels from the port and eastern part of Sierra Leone's capital.

The foreign ministers of Togo and the Ivory Coast arrived to begin intensive efforts to secure a ceasefire. Arriving at Lungi airport, they were ex-pected to meet President Kabhah, who has taken shelter at the airport, and Foday Sankoh, the rebel leader who was sentenced to death for treason last October

With food running short and water and electricity cut off, residents in the battle zone cowered in their homes, fearful of the marauding rebels who seized a number of civilian hostages to use as human shields after looting and burning their houses.

Reporters and troops reported many bodies still lying in the streets. The Ecomog progovernment troops, reinforced

weekend, pushed into the eastero part of Freetown and cleared rebels from the seat of government. Helicopters and fighter jets flew sorties from the airport, straling and bomb-ing rebel strongholds.

General Timothy Shelpidi, commanding the West African forces, said his men were pushing southeast towards the eastern suburbs of the capital. He said the rebels would be driven from the capital in the next few days. We are very confident about the situation in Frectown."

The fighting has raised ques-tions in Nigeria, where newspapers have called for the troops' return. But the Defence Ministry said it was committed to the operation and would not abandon President Kabbah. Yesterday Nigeria held a meeting of regional foreign ministers to discuss the fighting, which some commentators said could leave Sierra Leone without a government and racked by the same



THE TIMES TUESDAY JANUARY 12 1999

Make or break for democracy as MEPs challenge Commission

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See this week's clash be-tween the European Commission and Parliament as a coming-of-age for the EU's only directhy-elected institution. But a bungled outcome could delay the assembly's drive for legitimacy.

What we are seeing is the emer-gence of real parliamentary democ-racy at the European level said Pavid Martin, a Labour MEP and one of the assembly's vice-presidents, as MEPs prepared to cast their verdict on the fate of Jacques Santer, President of the Commission, and his 19 Commissioners.

However, for the 626-member asembly, often maligned as the mother-in-law of parliaments. the duel with the executive risks

Parliament's censure vote may backfire,

writes Charles Bremner in Brussels

gilding its image as an undiscilimited powers, the Euro-assembly
plined talking shop that fails to has marched its troops up the hill
offer a coherent input to the EU's several times to face the Commis-"government". This could rebound on sitting MEPs in June's Europe wide elections and undermine the assembly's effort to expand its powers and narrow the EU's "demo-

· cratic deficit". We have a bad record for messing things up and there's a danger that we will make fools of our selves by the end of the week," said a French Socialist MEP.

Since 1991, when the Maastricht widened the Parliament's sion and governments, only to shuf-fle away from battle. Its onslaught

BSE crisis came to nothing. Thursday's censure vote over Commission mismanagement, although far more serious, has the ingredients for collapse through party infighting and national interest. The fight over the Commission has battle-lines that cut across the

two years ago against the Commis-

sion over its handling of Britain's

nant Socialist group, led by Pauline Green, a Labour MEP, is supposed to back the Commission, but many of its large German contingent are threatening to rebel.

The centre-right European People's Party, the other large group, which includes the Tories, is also in disarray. Wilfried Martens, its Belgian leader, opposes the "nuclear"option of censure, which would oust the whole Commiss However, many of the German

Christian Democrats, with an eye to the forthcoming elections, are on the warpath against the Commission. The British Conservatives are flinching from censure but have backed an alternative scheme, launched by the Liberals, to try to pick off individual Commissioners

by calling separate votes of no-con-fidence. The smaller Green bloc and the handful of right-wing anti-Maastricht MEPs, want all-out censure. The likely outcome will be a deal in which the two main blocs hold their fire in return for concessions from Mr Santer to open the Commission to closer parliamenta-

n obstacle to the Parlia-A ment's emergence as a real force is the failure of EU governments to fix its location. The heavy travel burden of MEPs is compounded by the bizarre prac-tice in which their whole institution shuttles once a month between Brussels and Strasbourg, 400 miles apart. The Parliament has

also ensured its continuing disrepute by failing to curb its own shady habits, notably its taste for lavish, unaccounted expenses

The move against the Commission was driven by disgust with its failure to curb malpractice and had management. The Parliament surprised itself in December by mustering a majority behind a move to reject the Commission's EU accounts for 1996.

Seeking to clear the air and help the Commission, Mrs Green resorted to a dangerous ploy by calling for a censure vote and daring the critics to vote for it. She underestimated the depth of MEPs' anger.

She had effectively handed a weapon to the hardline anti-Santer forces and now finds herself the architect of the Commission's possible downfall. This has not improved her standing with Tony Blair and other centre-left prime ministers, who are appalled at the risk of paralysis in the EU's machinery at a crucial time for decisions on spending reform.

Many MEPs say the clumsy procedures this week show the need to give the Parliament more precise weapons to discipline the Commission than the existing blunderbuss of censure. Its powers in this field are already to be extended under the Treaty of Amsterdam, which takes effect this spring. The Parliament will then have the right to veto the member states' choice of the Commission President to succeed Mr Santer next January.



law aimed at educational reform. In a two-month unrising, students have occupied 400 state schools, although some of those reopened when term started last Friday

French purists opt for zone

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

AFTER much wordy debate the Académie Française has ruled that the countries pledged to a single currency should be called neither the English-sounding "euroland" nor the pseudo-French "euro-lande" but rather the "euro

zone", which could be either. The unexpected compromise by the body in charge of defending and defining the French language follows bitter controversy over the spread of the word euroland, which some purists claimed was yet more evidence that French is being steadily colo-

nised by English terms.

The Académie advises against the use of euroland because it is not the name of a sovereign state or even a confederation, but simply the area of application of a treaty," the Académiciens declared. "If the United States is not dollarland and Britain is not sterlingland, why should the II nations be curoland?"

"Eurolande" was supported by some linguists as a French alternative, but rejected by others who pointed out that the word "lande" is usually used to denote wasteland.

pointed out that "curo zone" was already used by the Bank of France and government of-fices, yet they still face the traditional problem with defending the French tongue: almost nobody uses "curo zone" while the vast majority are as familiar with "euroland" as they are with "Disneyland".

John Laughland, page 16

Schröder endorses the euro beleaguered Santer

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

THE German Chancellor, Gerhard Schröder, yesterday threw the weight of the Ger man presidency behind Jacques Santer, the European Commission President, who is fending off criticism that some of his Commissioners are corrupt and incompetent.

Europe needed a strong Commission at this moment, he said, if it was to reform its finances and open up to candi-dates from the East.

"We talked about how different European institutions could be involved in an anticorruption controlling group," the Chancellor said after meeting Mr Samer and the other Commissioners in Bonn. Mr Santer said he had already drawn up plans for an intra-institutional working group and added that "we could expand

Schröder's proposals". Whether this concession to the European Parliament will be enough to overcome Thursday's no-confidence vote on the Commission remains to be gether," he said. seen. In Bonn for the routine Mr Santer, he said, was not meeting to mark the start of the six-month presidency, the 20 Commissioners posed for photographers as if they were

these ideas to include Herr

about to walk the plank. We have become the victims of our own openness," Mr Santer claimed. It was the Commission itself, he said, which had uncovered the con-

troversial cases. Herr Schröder made plain that the German Government wanted the Commission to stay in place. "My respect for ians is such that I will not publicly advise them how to vote. But to achieve the ambitious goals of the six-month German presidency we need the Commission, the presidency and the parliament to work to-

about to vacate his seat and that was good because he needed a stable and active Commission enjoying the full confidence of the European Parliament if the Agenda 2000 package - reforming European finances and agriculture to prepare the Union for more members - was to be agreed on schedule at a special sum-

mit in March. For his part, Mr Santer said he was not championing either Helmut Kohl, the former German Chancellor, or Romano Prodi, the former Italian

Prime Minister, to become his

"All cards, including the British rebate have to be placed on the table... the British rebate, at least in its current dimensions, is no longer

justified," said Mr Santer. Herr Schröder said that from his soundings of other European leaders, everyone seemed willing to give some ground to allow for the over-

haul of European finances. In an interview with Die Welt yesterday, Mr Santer said that the Amsterdam Treaty gave the President enhanced powers which might allow individual Commissioners - rather than the whole team - to seek votes of confidence from the European Parliament, avoiding a repeat of this week's crisis.

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£100,000-£249,999	4.70	4.60	4.44	4.35	3.48	£10,000-£24,999	2.58	2.55	2.27	2.25	1.80
£25,000-£99,999	4,44	4.35	4.38	4.10	3.28	£5,000-£9,999	1.92	1.90	1.66	1.65	1.32
£30,000-£24,999	4.02	3.95	3.76	3.70	2.96	£500-£4,999	1.26	1.25	1.00	1.00	0.80
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WORLD IN BRIEF Air force cuts in Russia attacked

Moscow: Russia's Air Force chief painted a woeful picture of his command, saying it had disbanded 530 units and dis-missed about 30,000 officers, including 69 generals, in 1998. Colonel General Anatoli Kornukov said the force dismissed or retired about 124,000 servicemen, reducing its strength to

185,000. Thirty-two military airfields were closed. The military is starved of funds because of the Government's inability to collect taxes and provide revenue. All branches of the military suffer from serious shortages of everything from weapons to food and the combat capability of many units is questionable. General Kornukov said pilots averaged 21 flying hours in 1998, far below the level considered sufficient to maintain capability. (AP)

Nuclear cancer check

Sydney: New investigations have been ordered into Britain's nuclear tests in Australia amid claims a rare cancer is killing servicemen who witnessed the blasts in the 1950s and 60s. The inquiries come after new research at Dundee University in Scotland showing that the incidence of bone marrow cancer, multiple myeloma, is ten times higher among test veterans than in the general population. Up to 15,000 Australian and 22,000 British servicemen witnessed the explosions conducted at Maralinga on the Monte Bello islands. (AFP)

Ecevit forms Cabinet



Ankara: Bulent Ecevit, 73, left, has become Turkey's sixth Prime Minister in three years, leading a pro-secular Cabinet that promises to keep tipthe fight against a powerful Islamic movement. Ending a surweek government crisis, the veteran politician yesterday put together a minority Government comprising his small Democratic Left Party and three independents, to the approval of President Demirel and the country's military. (AFP)

Road halts tribal war

Jakarta: Warring tribes in a remote forest region of Irian Jaya have suspended hostilities so that they can watch a road being built, the Jakarta Post reported. "This is the first time for these people to see motorcycles and other schicles, "an official was quoted as saying. The newspaper said some people had walked for four days through the forests of the wast eastern Indonesian province to see helicopters bringing motorcycles." cles, lorries and construction equipment (Remes)

Immigrants take blame for crime wave in Milan

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

Italian Prime Minister, will today hold an emergency meeting with top police officials in Milan amid fears that the country's normally civilised and businesslike economic and financial hub is descending into gangsterism of a kind more usually associated with the South

The alarm has been raised by nine street murders in as many days, several of them apparently involving Third World immigrants and East European matiosi from Albania and Croatia.

· The spiral of violence began on New Year's Day, when a Brazilian transvestite, his Italian client and a Sri Lankan bystander all died in a shootout. Soon afterwards armed rob-beries in shops and bars left a tobacconist and a newsagent

Police say there are about 70,000 immigrants in Milan, many of whom entered Italy illegally, and the influx has changed the landscape, with foreign criminals joining the Maha gangs from the South in exploiting a rise in drug running and prostitution.

Signor D'Alema, who came to office last October, said the spate of violent crime in Italy's foremost northern city was very serious and that he would travel to Milan today with Rosa Russo Jervolino, the Intenor Minister; and Oliviero Diliberto, the Justice Minister: ried by an apparent resur-They would announce a "prop-er response" to ensure public order, Signor D'Alema said. Newspaper reports said the crackdown would involve the deployment of nearly a thou-

MASSIMO D'ALEMA, the Italy's financial markets but also the centre of much of its business world, including the fashion industry. Diego Masi. under-secretary at the interior Ministry, said it was unacceptable that Milan was becoming "like Chicago in the 1930s".

> lan businessman, said the city had become "southernised in the worst sense ... the mini-mum requirements of a decent life are increasingly difficult to obtain. Milan is drowning in garbage and graffiti, over-whelmed by traffic problems and plagued by a backward administration. The only children one sees are those at traffic lights begging for change."

Marco Vitale, a leading Mi-

Although witnesses to the murder of the tobacconist insisted his killers had spoken with southern Italian accents, the violence has fuelled antiimmigrant feeling, with demands for tougher measures to halt illegal immigration. A recent law provided for the expulsion of immigrants without proper papers but at the same time offered an amnesty to ille gal immigrants who applied

for residence permits. Cardinal Carlo Maria Martini, the liberal Archbishop of Milan, appealed to residents not to succumb to anti-mmigrant hysteria. He said the rise in crime was part of a moral decline largely due to an increase in drug-taking.
The authorities are also wor-

gence of Mafra violence in the South after several years in which a crackdown had brought relative calm. Yesterday police in Sicily rounded up 20 mañosi said to be involved. in a gang which killed five peo--Milan is not only the hub of ple in a bar earlier this month.

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CHANGING TIMES

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Clinton trial set for operatic climax

Legal team argues for dismissal of impeachment articles, writes Bronwen Maddox in Washington

PRESIDENT Clinton's lawyers yesterday filed a stinging-3-page defence to the impeachment charges threatening his presidency, denying 'each and every material allegation against him".

The charges in the articles do not rise to the level of high crimes and misdemeanours as contemplated by the Founding Fathers, and they do not satisfy the rigorous constitutional standard applied through our nation's history," they argued, in a response de-livered just minutes before the

noon deadline. Mr Clinton's defence, his formal response to the Senate's summons for the first presiden-tial impeachment trial in 130 years, concluded with the blunt declaration that "the articles of impeachment should be dismissed. The document is signed by a small army of 11 lawyers, a symbol of the White House's determination to spare no resources in defend-

ing the President. There was speculation yes-terday that the whole Clinton legal team would walk up the steps of Capitol Hill later this week when the trial formally pegins on the Senate floor, for t confrontation with the 13 nanagers of the House of Rep-

esentatives, the prosecution.

The trial could bring an opratic climax to the year-long ewinsky saga, with the possi-ility that minor and major layers in the drama, from ionica Lewinsky to White louse secretary Betty Currie. ill all assemble on the Senate age, surrounded by choruses lawyers and congressmen. But the White House and enate moderates are still hop-ig for a curtailed trial in hich no witnesses are called nd the Senate votes early to ismiss the matter, perhaps inoking the compromise of a

rmal censure. Slightly tempering the force f its response, the White iouse vesterday seemed set to old back from filing a formal notion calling on the Senate to ismiss the charges immeditely. Leading Democrats on apitol Hill had said they vould be furious if Mr Clinton filed such a motion, as he would seem to be thumbing his nose at the carefully-constructed Senate consensus.

The Senate spent the weekend in a happy mood of selfcongratulation for having reached a cross-party pact on how to hold at least the early stages of the trial. That has proved tactical gold dust, leaving both the White House and the House of Representatives unsettled, suddenly deferential to the upper house.

The House managers were anxiously debating yesterday whether to file motions to shape the course of the trial by the deadline of 5pm. The White House will now wait until after the opening presentations to call for the case to be thrown.out.

But as the first stage of the trial began, it became clear that open warfare between the parties may simply have been postponed for several weeks, until they decide whether to call witnesses. The House is adamant that the Senate must call six to 10 witnesses, includ-

"It is uncomfortable to listen. to what happened in the Oval Office," said Representative Lindsey Graham, a member of the prosecution team. "But to give [Mr Clinton] the legal benefit because his conduct...is uncomfortable is

the wrong message to send."
But Tom Daschle, leader of the Democratic minority in the Senate, is battling to avoid calling witnesses on the grounds that nothing new would be added to the volumes of documents.

Democratic Senator Tim Johnson from South Dakota said: "I feel more optimistic that we are not going to have another OJ trial — that we can avoid something that goes on and on." He said that the Senare might be able to dispense with witnesses altogether. Mr Clinton spent yesterday

meeting President Menem of Argentina to discuss drug trafficking and Iraq. He is deter-mined to press alread with his State of the Union address next week despite pressure from senators to postpone it.



ه ي المن الإمل

Hillary Clinton recalled less tumultuous days yesterday when she launched a commemorative dollar to honour Dolley Madison, wife of James Madison, the fourth President. Mrs Madison, pictured on the book held by Mrs Clinton, is the first First Lady to be immortalised in this way

Larry Flynt, publisher of the pornographic magazine Hustler, has vowed to expose adultery in high places

Porn king set to pounce

By Damian Whitworth IN WASHINGTON

THE capital was in a state of anxiety last night as Larry Flynt, the pornographer, pre-pared to "out" a batch of adulterous members of Congress.

For those who have spent the past few weeks wondering if it was their indiscretions that were to be exposed, the wait was almost over. Mr Flynt, who publishes the magazine Hustler, had promised to expose a dozen politicians, all but one Republican, to demonstrate that those sitting in judg-ment on President Clinton were hypocrites.

According to his office six cases were ready to be publicised and the details of another six were being compiled.

Mr Flynt was planning to hold a press conference in Los Angeles last right. The por-nographer said he had been inundated with information about the infidelities of people in public life after he placed

pewspaper advertisements last year offering a reward of up to \$1 million (£606,000) to those who could prove they had extramarital affairs with congressmen or senators or other high-profile politicians.

Rumours in Washington have encompassed every conceivable sleazy story, from the use of teenage Mexican prostitutes by one Republican to homosexual affairs and dalliances with conspicuously overpromoted secretaries. Allan MacDonell, Editor of

Hustler, said that six affairs were "signed, sealed and delivered with affidavits and corroborating evidence", and involved 'people who go on TV and keep attacking Clinton". He said most of the victims

had already suspected they were on the hit-list but one in-dividual continued to bait Mr Clinton. "There's this one guy, I don't see how he can keep posturing the way he is. I mean, he's got to know." Hustier whittled down

claims of 250 affairs to 30 that were checked by private inves-tigators. Mr MacDonell said no one had been paid \$1 million but Mr Flynt is expected to spend \$4 million in total.

Bob Livingston, the incoming Speaker of the House of Representatives, resigned last month over a report that he had a string of extramarital affairs. Mr Flynt denied that he was the source of this information, but admitted that his team had been investigating the Louisiana representative. When he launched his cam-

paign, Mr Flynt said he wanted to expose "hypocrisy in its highest form". He was referring to those in the House and Senate who have been weighing the case against President Clinton. "People always lie about sex — to get sex, during sex, after sex, about sex. I totally disagree that perjury fin such a casel is perjury. Lying about your private life, even under oath, is totally different," he said.

Albright dashes spy's hope of freedom

By DAMIAN WHITWORTH

JONATHAN POLLARD, the American jailed for life for spying for Israel, seemed unlikely to receive elemency last night after new details emerged about his espionage activities. Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, had recommended that he should not be

At the Middle East summit last year, President Clinton promised Binyamin Netanyahu, Israel's Prime Minister, that he would look into the case for leniency towards Pollard, a former US Navy analyst who was arrested in 1985 and jailed for providing secret documents to Israel.

But in a confidential recommendation, Ms Albright told Mr Clinton there was no foreign policy reason to release Pollard and no basis for overriding the views of the US intelligence community that he should remain in prison, according to senior officials quoted by the Associated Press.

Mr Clinton is expected to make a decision soon on the case, but Ms Albright's recommendation, combined with the vehement belief of George Tenet, director of the ClA, that Pollard should remain incarcerated, is likely to seal his fate.

An article by the investiga-tive journalist Seymour Hersh in yesterday's New Yorker magazine cites the views of intelligence officials who believe Pollard did more damage to national security than has previously been revealed.

Hersh says that documents which Pollard handed over to Israel included a directory of signals intercepted by the National Security agency, providing insights into American spying techniques. Intelligence of ficers have long believed that the documents ended up in the hands of the intelligence servic-

es of the then Soviet Union. Some CLA sources believe Israel used Pollard to obtain the US attack plan against the former Soviet Union. Some of the material was exchanged with Moscow for Jewish scientists, according to one Middle East CIA station chief.

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Clothes fastener undoes bigfoot's fancy-dress act

TALL, brown and hairy, she flees over a stream bed into dense forest, leaving only a set of giant footprints and a few seconds of scratchy lomm film in the hands of two excited backwoodsmen

The film, shot by Roger Pat-terson and Bob Gimlin in a remote corner of northern California in 1967, has served true believers ever since as sacred proof of the existence of the fa-bled bigfoot, in this case a lone female caught dawdling in the Six Rivers National Forest near the Oregon border. Two analysis now say it is a hoax.

Deconstructing the Patter-son-Gimlin film frame by frame with the help of colour photocopiers and computers, a Canadian bigfoot buff claims he has identified a man-made fastener at the creature's waist that reveals it not a feral descendant of Gigantopithecus but a human in a bulky suit. The fastener, roughly the

shape of a bottle opener, can be seen swinging against the creature's coat in four adjacent frames of the film, Chris Murphy of Vancouver claims after an exhaustive analysis that has put an entire sub-culture of bigfoot loyalists on the de-

"It was a hoax. How can an . artificial, man-made object end up on a bigloot?" asked Cliff Crook, a fellow sceptic who has publicised Mr Murphy's findings. Both men have been branded traitors to a fondly preserved myth with

Close analysis threatens a

cherished US myth, writes Giles Whittell

parallels in the Himalayan yeti legend and literary echoes as old as Jonathan Swift's "ya-

Unlike the yeti. however, its American cousin has stalwart backers in academia. "I fully accept the Patterson film," said Professor Grover Krantz, an anthropologist at Washing-ton State University in Seattle who dismisses the Murphy analysis as amateur and irrele-vant. "If there was a fastener it could not be seen in an enlarge grain is such that it cannot hold an image of something

thuit small."

Tell-tale signs of bigfoot ac-tivity include flattened grass. twisted foliage and, above all. the stench of its musk, according to believers. Messrs Patterson and Gimlin confirmed all these on that October day in 1967, insists Ray Crowe, president of the Western Bigfoot Society. The image in their film "has a fluid motion; it's a wild creature of nature," he said at

In fact it is blurred, jerky. and probably a prank.

Windows* 98



The alleged bigfoot approaches a stream in a frame from the disputed 1967 Patterson-Giralin film

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We are living longer — but life can't be bought in a bottle

number of recent studies have found that vegetarians tend to live longer, healthier lives than meat-eaters. What causes the difference is unknown. It might be that eating meat does something to shorten life, or that the vegetarian diet contains something good for longevity, such as tofu. The Japanese diet is high in vegetables and soya products, which some think is why the Japanese live three years longer, on average,

than the Americans and British. Fish is another ingredient in Japanese food that is good for longevity. Research has shown that fish oils may help to protect against heart disease and stroke.

But there is, as yet, little evidence for the efficacy of most nutritional supplements. Antioxidants are promoted nowadays as agents to help combat ageing. It makes some sense to suppose that, if you add antioxidants to your diet, you may stave off some of the ravages of free radicals. But compared with the potent antioxidants that your cells manufacture already, those you take on a spoon or in a rablet may make little difference — and it is as well to beware of tinkering with what we do not yet fully understand. That said, I do believe that some nutri-

tional supplements are worth taking, so long as medical opinion confirms that

they are not toxic. Vitamin C is well tolerated by the body in high doses, although above 4g a day it has been linked to kidney-stone formation and gout. It provides a general antioxidant protection. Vitamin E supplementation also makes some sense because it quenches free-radical chair reactions in membranes. The cal chain reactions in membranes. The

recommended allowance is 30mg daily.

Yet even if nutritional supplements do you no good at all, there is still the placebo effect. This should not be underrated. The idea that the mind can influence the immune system was once rubbished by medical science - yet recent studies suggest that injections of testosterone once a week, or testosterone skin patches, can help older men to stay leaner, stronger, happier and more virile (although they may be at increased risk of atherosclerosis and prostate cancer). Add to this the effectiveness of Viagra as a treatment for impotence, and some of men's anxieties about getting older can be allayed.

Hormone replacement therapy for women has an even stronger biological rationale in view of the abrupt shutdown of ovarian hormones that occurs at the menopause. Millions of menopausal women now take oestrogen hormone re-placement therapy (HRT) to combat hot flushes and the other unwelcome side-



effects of "the change". There is strong suggestive evidence that HRT brings other benefits in the form of reduced postmenopausal bone loss, reduced risk of breast cancer and of cardiovascular disease, and even a degree of protection. against Alzheimer's disease. On the minus side, there is some suggestion that it increases the risk of ovarian cancer.

Three other hormones have received considerable attention over the past years for their possible effects on the ageing process: growth hormone; dehydro-

epiandrosterone (DHEA); and melatonin. The rationale for the claims made on behalf of each of these is that production of the hormone declines with age. Boosting its level back to something like the level in youth might, it is suggested, amelio-

rate or reverse some aspects of ageing. In the case of melatonin, neither the hypothesis nor the data are convincing. Melatonin's primary effect seems to be on the circadian rhythm — the biological cy-cle that keeps us working to a 24-hour clock. It is a weak antioxidant, but its con-

dant capacity is negligible.

DHEA's role in ageing has also been the subject of wildly exaggerated claims. This is a steroid hormone produced by the adrenal glands in both men and women. It plays a role, yet to be fully defined, in the production of other hormones, par-nicularly oestrogen and testosterone. Giv-en that these play important roles in fe-male and male biology, and that HRT. has significant effects on ageing, it will not be at all surprising if DHEA supple-mentation also has biological effects in old age, some of which may be beneficial. But that does not make it the fountain of youth in a bottle.

Growth hormone is a potent stimulator of growth in children, and in later life it continues to be produced according to a 24-hour cycle, albeit at a declining level. But its effect on muscle mass has not been shown convincingly to translate into enhanced strength and endurance in older people. Serious concern has also been expressed about its side-effects.

The most worrying thing about the way in which some hormone therapies for ageing are touted and sold is that the claims pay such scant regard not only to the nature of the ageing process, but to what is known about how hormones

work. Hormones are potent biological agents, often with complex and multiple effects, and often released within the body on a tightly co-ordinated schedule not the sort of thing you would expect inspec compa and com

to work by swallowing a pill or two.

Anti-wrinkle creams generally work by using chemistry to affect the appearance of the skin, mostly by plumping and rehydrating dried-up cells. Aithough manufacturers have dropped claims that such creams tackle the intrinsic ageing of

such creams tackle the intrinsic ageing of the skin, some packaging still carries a lot of scientific gobbledegook.

A new development is the range of skin creams containing retinoic acid. This will not tackle the underlying damage that has occurred through ageing of the skin cells, but it does appear to have some ef-fect on the damage caused by sunlight.

cells, but it does appear to have some effect on the damage caused by sunlight.

If I have disheartened you by suggesting that the search for long life is a hopeless cause, let me assure you that nothing is farther from the truth. We are living longer, and there is encouraging evidence from the US that the period of disability before death is getting shorrer. But you would be kidding yourself to think that long life can be bought in a bottle.

• Time of Our Lives is published on January 28 by Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £20.

Birthing books and babies

Pregnancy sparks creativity, says Kate Muir, who delivered a novel and child within weeks of each other

novelist panics. Her nanny is sick and she has two days to finish the final draft of her book. As her toddler lists demands that a terrorist would be proud of, the author calls her editor, Suzanne Baboneau

at Macmillan, to postpone. "We can't," says Baboneau.
"I'll come over, we'll finish it now." But Baboneau's situation is little better. She has a ven-week-old daugnier and is breastfeeding. The two wornen sit down, amid demands for pampering and Pampers, to make the cut. The author suddenly looks up: "I bet Martin Amis doesn't have to do this."

That novel was a bestseller, unaffected by its speedy, milkspattered edit, and is soon to be a film. But after Baboneau, who is my editor, told me this story, I began thinking wheth-

er creativity and procreation were compatible. I was enduring the bouncy-castle days of late pregnancy and scrabbling to finish a novel myself when I read the headlines: "Health warning: having a baby can shrink your brain" and "Just as we thought - pregnant women do lose their minds".

It was 1997 and a London anaesthetist. Dr Anita Holdcroft, had found, after scanning women's brains in late neenancy, mai incy seemed t have shrunk. They returned to full size six weeks or a few months after the birth. This everyone concluded, explained the absent-mindedness mentioned in pregnancy manuals. The report irritated me be-cause this time round, in my second pregnancy. I felt mar-ginally less stupid than usual. Then I noticed a throwaway line in the study: "It is also pos-



sible that the women's brains were swelling from a normal size, the researchers conclude." Perhaps nature was giving mothers bigger brain cells or connections so they could cope with the doublethink needed to look after two people instead of one. I could but hope that this

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was true. For while my pregnant body had been taken over by alien forces, my mind was still there, on overdrive. I had been rising at 3am to type my novel, half-dreaming and halfworking on scenes, when my son Finn (now nearly two) saw fit to kick me awake. Maybe it was hormonal and hallucinogenic, maybe it was because I knew my spare time was about to be rudely shortened, but the first draft was written a few

weeks before contractions be-Health warning: pregnancy may be linked to creativity but there is no way of telling, as with childbirth, if the result will be good or bad. Barbara Kingsolver, an award-winning American writer, says in an essay about her first novel: "The baby was premeditated, but

the book I'd conceived recklessly, in a closet late at night, when the restlessness of my insomniac pregnancy drove me to compulsive verbal intercourse with my soul. The pages that grew in a stack were incidental to the process."

Louise Erdrich, of The Beet Queen and other novels, wrote in *Harper's* about her working day in a hur oppo-

come here every day to write, starting while invisibly preg-nant. I imagine myself somewhere else, in another skin, another person, another time. Yet simultaneously my body is constructing its own character. It requires no thought at all for me to form and fix a whole other person."

When her child is born everything goes belly up, so to speak. She doesn't get much done, and all pleasure is "tempered by sleep deprivation. We wonder why prisoners break more easily without sleep." Desperately she tells her baby: "I give up. 111 tell you anything." Indeed, sleep deprivation, more than anything else, is probably what causes new mothers to lose their minds. But there are times when it all dicks for Erdrich: "Sometimes I hold my child in one arm, nursing, and write with the other hand, with no separation of

one activity, apart from housework, that can just about be combined with child-rearing. Lucille Clifton was once asked why her poems were always short, and replied: "I have six children, and a memory that can hold about 20 lines until the end of the day."

Birthing hooks and babies is not a recent habit. Marguerite Duras produced her first son and novel in 1942. Mary Wollstonecraft published A Vindication of the Rights of Women, ran off to Paris, found a lover and got pregnant in the middle of the French Revolution. She was determined to finish volume one of An Historical and Moral View of the Origins and Progress of the French Revolution before giving birth in 1794. She seems to have equated her book with her pregnan-

cy: "It has grown under my hand," she wrote in the introduction. Wollstonecraft's interpretations of the Revolution altered as her pregnancy progressed. Her biographer writes: 'It was im portant to her to be able to reassert her

women faith in humanity and its future as an hallucinate intellectual corollary to the emotion-al and physical promise of her child." Wollnaturally

Men rely

on drugs,

pregnant

her second child, who became Mary Shelley. Again, Shelley's Gothic novel. Frankenstein, was published in 1818, and she had given birth to two children (who died in 1820) in the two preceding years. Studies of women's

stonecraft died after bearing

dreams during pregnancy show them to be particularly psychedelic and vivid, and who can say how this affected the birth of Frankenstein himself. While men may rely on drugs for seminal works such as Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas, women have their hallucinations naturally. As Erdrich says: "One could say that my work is hormone driven ... I feel I am transcribing from a flow of language runrong through the room."

A heroine in my own novel is an absurd, rather dizzy New York artist who suddenly finds inspiration during pregnancy,

Alternative to hysterectomy

ONE woman in 20 aged between 30 and 50 consults her doctor annually about heavy periods. This underestimates the problem, however, as one woman in four has periods that are heavier than is medically desirable.

A new means of treating this problem — by eradicating part of the lining of the uterus. hereby avoiding a hysterectomy — is now being used by some gynaecologists. It in-volves the hearing of a sterile fluid contained within a bal-loon, which has been introduced into the uterus, to a point where the uterine lining is destroyed. It does not involve admission to hospital.

Human pature doesn't change, Dr James Johnson, writing in The London Medi-cal Review in 1825, said: "We consider exirpation of the uterus one of the most cruei and infeasible (sic) operations that was ever executed by the head or hand of man." Even today, in a third of cases of hysterectomy, there is no obvi-ous disease in the interus that causes excessive bleeding. ThermaChoice the heated-baloon method of treatment. would reduce the need for any thoughts of hysterectomy.

fined by doctors as the loss of more than 80ml of blood durng any one period, a condition known as menorrhagia They consider as excessive the need to change a pad or tampon more often than every two hours. The use of more than ten sanitary pads a day for more than seven days is an indication that periods are heavier than they should be. When there is a heavy loss of blood. there is also likely to be occa-sional flooding, with attendant social embarrassment

The important tests are whether a woman feels that her periods are beavier than they should be, or whether the recurrent blood loss has affected her general health as a result of her becoming anaemic. The woman may not even realise why she is unusually tired. or even breathless, but the effects will influence her domestic social and professional life. Doctors divide menor-rhagia into two categories Those which are related to

physical abnormality in the uterus are described as structural menorrhagia — condi-tions such as polyps, fibroids, infections or endometriosis. or very occasionally, a malignancy. The second group is la-belied dysfunctional menor rhagia — the result of some medical condition, such as a side effect of taking some par ticular drug or, more offen hormonal imbalance

Many drugs are used in the medical treatment of dysfund tional bleeding, often after di lation and curettage (D and C — in which a doctor scrape away the lining of the uteru so that its cells may be examined under the microscope This is not a treatment but necessary step in any invest gation. Surgical treatment for heavy periods consists of consists of consists of consists of consists. ther hysterectomy or uterio ablation. Hysterectomy, the re moval of the uterus, is th choice of treatment in som forms of structural menor rhagia. Uterine ablation is the removal of a greater part o the uterine lining: the source of the heavy bleeding. It is no always successful and some will need a hysterectomy later

MEDICINE CHEST

ThermaChoice (uterine bal-loon therapy) and uterine ablation are equally effective. ThermaChoice is comparatively cheap at about £300 on the NHS. A local anaesthetic is given before the balloon is in-flated with enough sterile fluld to fit snugly into the uterine cavity. The fluid is heated to 87C and maintained at that temperature for eight minutes. This level destroys a significant proportion of the uterine lining. Thereafter, the fluid is drained away, the balloon deflated and the device removed.

The procedure, which takes less than half an hour, effectively controls bleeding in 85 per cent of cases; thereafter menstrual bleeding usually continues, but at an acceptable level. Although subse quent conception is unlikely it can occur, and a woman should continue usual contra ceptive measures. There can be pain infection and bleed ing but these affect less than 4 per cent of women and no serious adverse effects have been reported. Periods may take two or three months to return to an acceptable level.



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child as the creative urge. For

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hours, you have to insist that

that studies published last No-

vember by the neuropsycholo-

gist Craig Kinsley, of the Uni-

versity of Richmond in Virgin-

ia, show that hormones re-

leased during pregnancy

make animals bolder, more cu-

rious and energetic. In preg-

nant mice the number of brain

cells necessary for communica-

tion between neurons doubled.

the brain for a lifetime," says

Dr Kinsley. "The brain of a

late-pregnant female resem-

bles a toy factory at Christmas.

receiving orders and gearing up for the increased demands

about to be placed on it." Woll-

stonecraft, Shelley and Er-

drich could have told him that.

Suffragette City by Kate Muir is published this week by

Macmillan, £12.99.

Pregnancy seems to mark

the muse arrives on time. That's enough anecdotal evi-dence. You'll be glad to hear

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A prisons inspector of compassion and conscience

General Sir David Ramsbotham is a man on a mission. Interview by Grace Bradberry

I'd like to

be Chief

Inspector

of the

Prison:

Service

ompassion is a loaded word when it comes to prisoners, particularly those sentenced to life. Should we show any to people staken a life, raped, committed esterday it was revealed that not between the committed esterday it was revealed that not because of course he described by the committed esterday it was revealed that not because of course he described by the committed by the committed esterday it was revealed that not because of course he described by the committed by the co who have taken a life, raped, committed arson? Yesterday it was revealed that not only are there now more than 4,000 lifers. but that some of them are elderly (the oldest is 87): At Kingston jail in Portsmouth, a special unit has been fitted with chair-lifts, ramps and suitable bath facilities.

Zimmer frames in the cell blocks what a sad vision. But it is the sort of depressing sight to which General Sir David Ramsbotham, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Prisons for England and Wales, has become inured since he took over from Judge Stephen Turnim in 1995. "Rambo", as he was apparently affectionately known in the Army, was appointed by Michael Howard. The hardline Home Secretary presumably hoped that a tour of duty in Northern Ireland and experience of the Military Corrective Training Centre in Colchester would have produced a more robust attitude to prison regimes than that possessed

by Sir Stephen. Sir David did indeed apply military principles to the job — although not in the way that Howard might have hoped. That was a fantastic military manoeuvre," he says, chor-ling as he recounts his "walkout" from Holloway in only his second week in the post. The prison was at a standstill. It was filthy dirty and nothing was happening. So I felt that - good old military principle if it's dirty, show again."

Wouldn't it have been better just to finish the inspection and produce a full report? "At that time I was very con-cerned that reports of the inspectorate were taking over a year to be published nothing would happen." In other words. it was a counter-tactic to Howard's ruse of delaying reports.

And so began the battles with home secretaries, the director of the prison service, the Whitehall machine, that have been waged, often through the media, for four years. Sir David sees himself as Our Man in Wandsworth, there to give the public the truth on their prisons and to stick up for the welfare of prisoners. Officialdom sees him as a prickly thorn in its side. You might think that the arrival of new

Labour would have changed that, but scarcely a month had gone by when Sir David announced that the Government was planning to merge the probation and prison services to cut reoffending. The



Sir David: sees himself as a crusader

Government denied it, and Jack Straw is said to have phoned Sir David to express "extreme irritation".

Sir David sees himself as a crusader, just as much as Sir Stephen did. He believes that jails are doing a great job of keeping prisoners locked up but are fail-ing to reform prisoners while they are in-side. "You could use that time to identify what is wrong with someone - rather like a hospital - and then use that time for the best advantage of the individual and to the best advantage of the public," he says.

His is a mission that goes way beyond simply filing reports on the state of la-trines and the length of time spent in cells - and, it must be said, a mission that-ends to go way beyond the remit of his ob which is simply to inspect prisons, not he prison service as a whole.

He is 70, but his secretary tells me that le rises at five o'clock each morning, a labit acquired when he and his wife, Susin, were taking the same Open Universit art history course. They have two sons, one of whom entered the Army. Educated a Haileybury then Corpus Christi, Cambridge, he was considered one of the army's intellectuals. He also faced his stare of danger, including a car bomb nistakenly planted under a neighbour's.

because, of course, he doesn't slouch. But there is a brio and flamboyance about him that dispel any stiffness (he used to go into battle wearing a red cravar). He tells me with gusto of an inspector, many years ago, who committed suicide in Wandsworth prison. You can't imagine anything getting Sir David down. He has only 11 months of his five year

contract left and it is natural to wonder what he considers his chief achievements. "Golly," he says. "Er, Well. I think probably the key achievement is to encourage the prison service to treat women and young offenders separately from adult males." When he first went to see Richard Tilt, the Director-General of the Prison Service, "I discovered that there was no body in charge of women in the prison service except for a civil servant in some policy desk." There is now a di-

rector of regimes, with an assistant director in charge of women and young offenders. So much for his achieve-

ments. But his ambitions are greater. "Ideally, I would like to be, and have made no secret of it, Chief Inspector of the Pris-on Service." Straw has told him, plainly, that he can't.
And so he is left to comment

on conditions - but not on the system that creates them. His principle gripe is that when criminals are incarcerated. they enter a kind of isolation zone. When he first began inspecting he found that even the pre-sen-

tence reports were not automatically passed to prisons. "The social services wouldn't share anything, which worried us, about youngsters, particularly." And: "An awful lot of people didn't seem to think it appropriate to contact schools and find out what the record had been." The prison medical service is separate from the NHS, "So medical records don't get transferred. Now this seems to me to be absolutely mad, frankly

His other major beef is that prisons do not try to discover more about the people they are locking up. In addition to the education assessment that already takes place, he would like to see questions asked about social skills, fitness and work skills. The New Deal this Government has introduced includes a psychometric test. What is interesting in those is that they produce an idea of the potential of an individual. That says to me Well, why don't

we do that anyway? The hideous fact is that 90 per cent of those leaving prison don't get a job, and having been in prison anyway you are disadvantaged, so for heaven's sake don't pile misery on top of misery."

t was views such as these, all geared towards rehabilitation rather than retribution, that led to clashes with Michael Howard. "He said to me that he understood that I felt that people went to prison as a punishment and not for punishment. I said, yes, but I thought that was the policy of his Government, because that was actually quoting Leon Brit-

"He said he disagreed with me, and so I asked him what sort of prisons he expect-ed me to find, and he said 'Decent but austere in which there are progressive regimes to tackle reoffending based on the opportunities for work and education. I have to say I wondered where the punish-ment was in there. We didn't go on . . . " He is far more circumspect about his re-

lations with Jack Straw. Are they any better than with Howard? "I don't know that I can really answer that," he says, warily. "I see them both regularly. Funnily enough, I saw Michael Howard in Westminster Abbey at the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. I was sitting behind him. Ha, ha, ha." The irony of the occasion cannot be

lost on either of them.
"I think it is true to say that Jack Straw's agenda is different from Michael Howard's and he is establishing, thank goodness, the principle of the criminal jus-

tice system working as a system."
In truth, much of the friction with both Home Secretaries has centred on Sir David's skilled use of the media. He was even included in Chapman Pincher's recent Spectator article. Leakers I have known". He looks rather embarrassed when I mention this. "All my reports are made public," he says. "None of them is classified, so where are the secrets? I've got none. And I can't have: And I'm telling

the public about their prisons." There remains something incongruous about this military man championing compassion in our prisons. Is he a liberal, then? "If liberal means do I support the idea that prisoners must be treated with humanity then the answer is yes. They are

Penelope Lively THE chooses her favourite book as A child I was hooked on Arthur Ransome's Swal-





Smother me and mother me. Margaret and Robin Cook, Bill Clinton and Hillary, Jerry Half and Mick Jagger, Rachel Hunter with Rod Stewart

Looking for a mummy

probably choking on your cornflakes this past Sunday morning as you read Margaret Cook's revelations you read Margaret COOK'S revelations about the dastardly, serially unfaithful, Robin. If you're male you're probably wondering (in a quietly admiring way) how the hell he got away with it for so long. But, perhaps the most salient point in the whole turgid story (and Margaret writes quite well, don't you think?) is the first Mar Cook's analysis that her profusal. first Mrs Cook's analysis that her refusal to act as a mother figure to her husband "may have been one significant factor in the ultimate breakdown of our marriage".

It's elementary. Every woman knows that men — for all their independent, new renaissance "let me change the nappy nonsense — want to be mothered. And every man knows that for all his desires to marry a career babe who brings in the dough, looks good in a suit and is great in the sack, he really wants to be cooked fish pie, tucked up in bed each night and soothed to sleep on a comforting bosom.

If you're seeking the perfect example, look no further than the boys from Men Behaving Badly. Years of macho, drunk-ch, loutish behaviour and where did it get them? Shacked up with two respectable, murnsy types who will no doubt be profering slippers, pipe and forgiveness in the next series (if there is one).

Of course, forgiveness is key to murimy-ing in marriage. After all, Margaret Cook kept the relationship limping along for years by turning a blind eye at best and reproaching at worst. And Hillary Clinton could teach a masterclass in forgiving and forgetting. Who among us hasn't fall-en for the little boy lost act? Dammit, women are programmed to say "ahhh" to puppies, kittens and any human under four years of age. There's a kind of Darwinistic instinct present in males that makes their first line of defence the doe-eyed, "I'm sor-ry I didn't mean it" approach.

The problems start, as Margaret Cook rightly points out, when the female partner refuses "to be mother". I doubt whether Diana, Princess of Wales ever intended to serve Charles boiled eggs on a tray in front of the telly. Although the initial approach she took, of coming over all maternal and "feeling his pain" at the loss of Earl Mounthatten, was probably what hooked him in the first place. But Diana, with all her insecurities and frail talents, needed looking after herself, which was probably why Charles returned to the more motherly Camilla Parker Bowles.

f you've got a strange relationship with your mother-in-law, take it as a compliment. Mothers can spot prospective wives who will be good "mummies" a mile off. And they rankle at the idea of their darling boy marrying anything less. Hence the Queen's reserve about Diana, but embracing of Sophie Rhys-Jones. She might purport to be a business whiz, but with legs like that, a solid middle-class Home Counties upbringing and a savvy understanding of what she's getting herself into, Sophie will un-doubtedly take over where Mrs Windsor Senior left off.

You don't have to be dowdy to "mummy" in marriage. In fact, it would help if you weren't. The new male would like nothing better than to combine supermodel with super mummy. If you could be Diana by day and Delia by night you'd have the marriage market all sewn up. But even those who have the whole

package get bored. Rachel Hunter has decided she "needs some space" away from husband Rod Stewart. And the glamorous Jerry Hall has allegedly become tired of the maternal care and devotion she's given Mick — not to mention turning a blind eye to all those infidelities. Having given birth again, she's decided she has enough on her plate, without dealing with the antics of a 55-year-old going on five. So, you're sitting there smugly thinking that of course you are not (a) the "mummy" in your marriage or (b) married to a "mummy". Well, think again, mummy-

ing can take many forms. Sure, your husband/partner cooks for you occasionally, but doesn't the kitchen look like an engine from Concorde has dropped into it when

Every woman knows that for all their talk of independent lifestyles, men just want to be mothered, says Tina Gaudoin

he's finished? And don't you find yourself cleaning up, after he's cleaned up? The don't-bother-t'il-do-it-myself response is asked why?, the answer is to be found in also part of mummying. How many times have you been halfway through issuing instructions to your partner about how to erect the travel cot, or get the phone reconnected (because he's forgotten to pay the bill) when an anguished or plain dumb look, illicits the aforementioned reaction.

ه کخارمن رائم مل

Admittedly some men don't even make any pretence at deviating from the mother norm - they go the whole hog and marry women who are like their mothers, literally or metaphorically. Take Richard and Judy, daytime talkshow hosts. Husband

Judy's constant and warm affirmation of

Richard on (and one imagines off) screen. As Margaret Cook's agonising memoirs make clear, a man who is not having his ego bolstered, is a man who is primed for an affair. I'm talking about the appreci-ative guff that we females put out on daily on behalf of our male partners. 1. who pride myself on being the antithesis of my husband's "mummy", am guilty of plenty of it. At dinner parties he sits smugly as I recount how he is "great with the children", can run a 3hr 20 marathon or bas

"worked incredibly hard". The point is not that he does not say flattering things about me; it is just that if you listen closely, you'll notice that female discourse is lit-

tered with male affirmation. And don't think men haven't cottoned on to the weaknesses in those of us who profess to have non-mummying relationships. In fact, manipulating one's inde-pendent, non-mummyish "power wife" has become something of a late 1990s, testosterone-loaded game.

A friend of mine recalls a conversation she overheard between her husband (a lawyer) and his friend (a barrister) after she and the barrister's wife had handed over their respective six-month-olds while they went shopping. Lawyer: "I hope I can get this feeding and nappy changing thing right". Barrister: "Get it right? Good God. you need to do the whole thing as badly as you can so you're never asked



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ows and Amazons. I read them during the Second ows and Amazons. A reau mem during the second Vorld War. Since I was in Egypt, it was a fantasy world for me. It was magical, these liberated children ushing around the Lake District getting into all sorts of adventures. I was hooked, enthralled. Now my grandchildren are equally fascinated by them.



Guardian man and a secret love

ow can you tell if your lover is infatuated with another? The surest giveaway is "mentionitis". A condition first identified in the best-selling guide to doomed love, Bridget Jones's Diary, it is a killer clue more ominous than lipstick on the collar. If a particular name crops up consistently in your partner's conversation at the oddest points, a repetitive invocation of "Mark" this or "Mary" that, then that really is it. Now's the time to make the traditional preparations for parting — arranging a jungle trip to South America, calling

Margaret Cook had to live for years with the knowledge that her husband was fascinated by another. The telltale signs were there, even when Robin Cook spoke disparag-ingly of his mistress. The leader of the Labour Party also has an obsession; so does the Editor of The Guardian. But do their regular partners read

your agent and negotiating

Tony Blair can't help mentioning his mentor, in a manner which recalls Mr D'Arcy's attitude towards Elizabeth Bennett. The superficial disdain cannot mask the consistency of that woman's hold on the imagination. Mr Blair may claim to hate her, but he's clearly besotted with Marga-ret Thatcher.

He invited comparisons between his 1997 manifesto and her's in 1979 and then sought to claim the Government's handling of Diana's death was

"his Falklands". Some might consider it required rather greater steel to send a task force halfway across the world to raise the Union Jack than to send a spin-doctor up the Mall to lower the Royal Standard, but in love it's the thought that counts.

But this particular affair is likely to end just as the first Oedi-pal infatuation did - in tragedy. Mrs Thatcher's success

sprang from her willingness to defy consensus and risk unpopularity. She won admirers because she walked alone. Mr Blair is afraid to stand out in Europe, unprepared to divorce himself from the fashionable and incapable of distancing himself from reliance on Peter Mandelson. He wills the end without daring the means. Faint heart never won Iron

Lady.

The same sickness of the heart afflicts another on the Left. The Editor of The Guardian is a man in the grip of a doomed obsession. Although Alan Rusbridger devoted two pages of his newspaper yester-day to how he fell in love with the Net, the real object of his infatuation is another global media phenomenon.

The name is mentioned, almost every day, in his paper. And the image of the one who holds him in thrall has been transformed into an icon. Just as Renaissance artists had to incorporate the face of their muse on murals, or latter-day lovers hire Piccadilly Circus neon signs to make their proposals, so The Guardian's Editor has decorated billboards across the country with the profile of his obsession. and a brief quote from the beloved. The face that launched these thousand

clips? Rupert Murdoch's. Of course. The Guardian protests that it hates the dark prince of print. It really detests him. Oh God, can't stand the

vulgar creature. But it won't

stop mentioning his name. In an editorial yesterday it even managed to blame him for this Government's woes. Talk about counter-intuitive. The idea that the real source of recent trouble is neither Brown nor Mandelson but an international media magnate shows a disregard for the obvious which is the hallmark

It is, on one level, an example not so much of shooting the messenger as riddling the post office with artillery fire. But, on a deeper level, it reflects a man not fully can imagine Mr Rusbridger confiding in a friend, like Jude discussing her obsession with the dastardly Vile Richard in Bridget Jones's Diary: "I hate him, I hate him, I hate him, (sob)...oh God, why does he do this to me, I can't get him out of mind." Or out of the

Guardian writers blame Mr Murdoch for Tony Blair's failure to sign instantly up to the euro, *The Guardian* itself holds him daily responsible for lowering the tone of our national life. It won't be long before they claim he invented the millennium bug.

Yesterday, most curiously of all, the paper's Editor celebrated the unregulated vitality of the Net and yet his editorial, which blamed Mr Murdoch for Labour's crisis, attacked the mogul's papers for their unregulatable vitality.

The Guardian did not seek to deny that the Labour Party was divided, merely that the fact should not be reported.

"The feuding," it noted, "had always been known among Westminster hands, but now Labour factionalism has been dragged into the journalistic mainstream." Naughty Mr Murdoch, letting the readers of his 30-penny-dreadfuls in on all this ministerial wrongdoing. Next thing we know, he will be

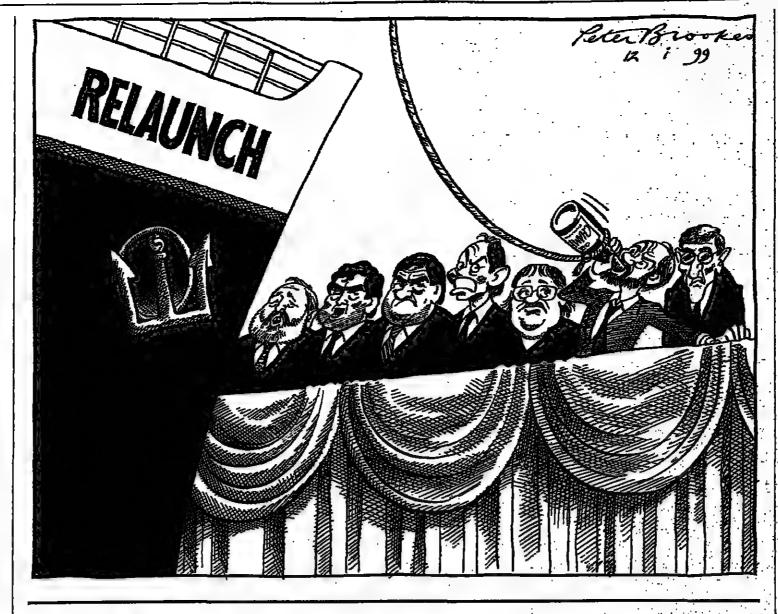
printing their hotel bills. The reason for The Guardian's fascination with Mr Murdoch is that he encourages what it claims to promote free thinking. His newspapers, like the Net itself, are driven by public demand and the creativity of chaotic, cock-snooking, individuals.

n his essay on the Internet yesterday Mr Rusbridger admits to his fascination with Junius, the anonymous 18th-century writer who "caused so much trouble with his prose that he was charged with sedition". The Guardian is dedicated, like all good newspapers, to causing trou-ble. Just ask Jonathan Aitken. But it cannot come to terms with the fact that the greatest godfather of mischief in print is Mr Murdoch. And it particularly resents the 18th-century pamphleteering vigour of his newspapers' assaults on its own liberal heroes.

Newspapers today are not yet as savage as Georgian writers or caricaturists were in their denunciation of the poxridden, dropsical, thieving politicians of their time. More's the pity. But Richard Littlejohn, Peter Brookes and Matthew Parris do their best.

The knowledge that these hacks all toil in the infernal regions of Wapping may bring Mr Rusbridger out in rash. But his irritation is the sincerest form of flattery.

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A divorce of convenience

Cook-book extract. Avidly, if you must know. But I still wish she hadn't done it, or had disguised it as a witty novel. After all, cui bono? The only test of any action is whether it does good; and who can possibly benefit from this post-marital character assassi-

Not Robin Cook, certainly. There are no grounds for thinking that a public list of his faults will make him humble, repentant, and resolved to lead a better life. Not Margaret Cook: despite the money, I suspect that she will come to regret having intemperately breached the privacy of a marriage that encircled 28 years of her life. Nor will their two adult sons reap any advantage. Either they know all there is to know about their father's adulteries and arrogance, or they would rather not. Or, at least, would rather it was not in The Sunday Times.

The reputation of marriage as an institution cannot benefit, either. Exposing a partner's infidelities is justifiable because infidelity is a great betrayal and it takes saintlike virtue not to proclaim it. But exposing lesser faults, oddly enough, is far less excusable. Call me old-fashioned, but it seems to me that one of the great things to be said for being married is the combination of company and privacy. Thus one can (occasionally) pass out cold on the dining-room floor hugging a bottle of brandy, badmouth one's colleagues, dent the car, forget to cancel the papers, suffer what the ladylike doctor calls "superficially stress-related problems . . . in marital relations", have a spot of memory loss, shout at the children, and bang down grudging cheques on the kitchen table with a "harsh stream of expletives", while all the time having the security of knowing that you are among friends — one friend, the best kind - and therefore will not be grassed

upon to the newspapers. This is not to excuse chronically bad or violent behaviour, meriting a walkout. But in the normal way of things we all sober up, apologise to spouse and children, take the tablets, practise smiling into the mirror and go out again, image undented, to face the cruel world. [have always thought of this as a permanent contract, part of the marital deal and not to be nullified even by divorce. It is my earnest hope that when I run off with a 22-year-old personal trainer, my spouse will stick to exposing my infidelity, and not start going into

All of Labour's futile spinning cannot conceal the real question in the Cook story

shaming details about grey under-wear, leaving the knife in the jampot, how I bought expensive three-dimensional jigsaws and never did them, or any harsh streams of expletives I may have let fly about Times colleagues in the privacy of a

bottle of Laphroaig.
No: she shouldn't have done it. But there is one area in which the book might benefit sober govern-ment. This is the story, newly amplified, of what happened at the airport when the Cooks were leaving for their holi-

day in August 1997. Mrs Cook's account — never challenged - says that they were "rehabilitated and full of happy plans when a message came for Mr Cook to ring Alastair Campbell the PM's press officer. He went quiet: in the VIP lounge, he said: "I am afraid there won't be any holiday. It's cancelled. News of the World

of my affair with Gaynor on Sunday. I can't leave the country. I think you and I should part. There was also a conversation

with Mr Blair, she says, in which Cook kept saying "I understand. I understand" and after which he announced "I shan't lose my Job". Then, despite his wife's expressed wish, he declared the marriage over. In an interview accompanying the book, Mrs Cook spells it out. "He coldly weighed up the conse-quences of dropping either her or me and thought that, if he dropped her, she would have made life very

difficult for him." Worse, she also believes that the press secretary and the PM forced a snap decision for "news clarity". "I've no idea what ultimatum he received from Campbell and Blair but they clearly wanted to avoid the image of his having a bit on the side and dropping her as soon as the affair was revealed. The image of a genuine, impassioned love affair and a stale marriage was one the public might more easily be

persuaded to believe and accept." Now, this is serious stuff, and does belong in the public domain. Most hardnosed pundits seem to accept it as a justifiably macho political decision, but to a normal conscience it is, as Peter Mandelson might put it, gut-wrenching stuff. No husband and wife, however rocky the marriage, should ever be put in such a position by an employer. Yet Mrs Cook's theory is uncomfortably plausible: although

abandonment is a step beyond adultery, in the age of serial marriage the idea of a grand sell than the risible cliché of the philanderer who furtively skulks home, in Orwell's unforgettable tuice of the forbidden fruit dripping from his whiskers It is a matter of record that the passion" "grand line has since been fed to us assiduous- remember Cook's crass line about his never hav-

ing known more

happiness, and the lovely hat for a lovely lady?? The whole thing smells of black magic, spin-magic, the weaving of glib stories. Robin Cook's career (doomed now, and who cares?) is no longer the issue. Mr Blair and Mr Campbell should level with us. Tell us — or play us the tapes — of exactly what was said to the Foreign Minister at the airport. Did they tell him that image was more important than marriage? That focus groups suggest 23 per cent more sympathy for passionate second marriages than for two-timing liars? Or did they uphold human and family values and calmly suggest that he make a statement after a thoughtful

holiday? What did he mean by "I understand ... I understand ... "? It is not pleasant to contemplate. I never thought I would be nostalgic for Cecil Parkinson, but perhaps it was the lesson of Parkinson which the panicking news-managers remembered. He went back to his wife, remember, after a period of dithering, but it was the dithering that scuppered him (marked by the wonderful Bernard Levin comment that this man "organises his private life in a novel manner, by promising to share his future with whichever lady has most recently spoken sharply to him"). Maybe Labour crudely advised Mr Cook to avoid the Fatal Attraction trap, pacify the potential bunny-boiler and rely on the stiff upper lip of his nice Scottish-doctor wife to stay buttened. If this is true, it stinks. If not, tell us so,

News management is the curse of the age, only just behind its parasitic twin, media intrusion. It should not be necessary for a Government with a big mandate. Mr Brown says that this is the week when new Labour begins to "deliver", and we are promised a daily flurry of policy initiatives. Mr Blair begs to be judged only on the Government's effects, not the charac-

ters of its ministers. OK then: show, don't tell. Stop nagging us, stop feeding us meaningless phrases, stop showing off on television and bombarding us with boringly righteous newspaper columns pretending to be by the PM's own hand. Stop holding silly, sick photocalls in which a gruff bachelor Chancellor helps a reluctant toddler to cut his cake. These things masquerade as tools of democracy and open government, while in fact they have the opposite purpose to bamboozle and confuse.

n the name of God, chaps, just do it pay nurses properly, support schools (not just by distributing yet more expensive doorstops labelled Numeracy Hour). Give up glitz and salons, and listen more carefully to the thousand unglamorous, hardworking lobby groups who from close to the ground can express the problems of hospitals, of prisons, farms, schools, inner cities, families, countryside. Do the boring stuff, Work out a proper policy about whether we are in Europe or not. Find somewhere for the street-sleepers to go, and back the charities which get them back on their feet. Make the trains run properly, or renationalise them. Be nicer to Clare Short. Get Frank Field back. Promote Kate Hoey. Be dour and honest, transparent with the records but sparing of comment.

And when ministers get into human muddles, and the press finds out, just keep your damn spoon out of the pudding.

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Lunch hunch

FFION JENKINS seeks dosh from Blair crony. Or so one of those downmarket newspapers might try to make hay from an innocent lunch. There was the wife of the Tory leader (below left), looking delicious, sitting opposite Lord Alli (right), the Labour aesthete and donor at the Ivy yesterday. Michael Portillo and Ed Victor

looked on, faintly puzzled. So what was the purpose of the rendezvous? "Waheed is a prominent business-man," Fion, director of the Associa-tion of Business Sponsorship for the Arts (ABSA), tells me. "I was updating him on new ideas and was meeting on ABSA business." Hmm. But the Tories could do with





 THE backbiting continues.

Westminster still buzzes with tales about my friend Peter Mandelson. despite his fall from grace. One such story goes that, so besieged by newspaper Johnnies was he over Christmas, that his good friend from Brazil, Reinaldo Avila de Silva, was a prisoner in his

house for a few days.
The poor thing had to rely on the disgraced minister's snacks, brought up to the boys' room where he was apparently hiding. Benjamin Wegg-Prosser, Peter's able helper, is as appalled as I am by the claim: "As far as I know, there so one else living in the there's no one else living in the

Joint action

DISCREETLY, Jack Straw has plugged the loophole that allowed papers to identify his son as a cannabis seller. The Home Secre-tary has added a line to the Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill preventing young neer-do-wells from being named. Papers embarrassed Straw by disclosing Wil-liam's identity after realising that, as the proceedings were not "active", he could be outed. Ministers. and offspring, can smoke in peace.

 AFTER the bilious resignation of Sir David Gore-Booth from the Foreign Office, he wants a bank job. His old boss. Lord Hurd of Westwell, trousers £250,000 a year from NatWest Markets, and Sir David might get on the board of HSBC, which has taken over the less than smart Midland Bank.

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OMELIMON

Newsround

SIR NORMAN FOSTER has been asked by Sir John Birt to design a new home for the BBC's news folk at Bush House. Despite having just spent £400 million moving Jeremy Paxman and Co into a modish home at White City, the D-G is now keen to move back to the centre of town. The plans include developing



everything on the Aldwych island "Shepherd's Bush has its charm but they are hidden." Michael Buerk, splendid newscaster, tell me. "We could move to Surrey and commute from Charing Cross."

● IS Tony Banks hored with his laddish image? The Sports Mini-ter, dressed in a three-piece sui refused to walk onto a footbal pitch yesterday for a photocall because it was "too muddy".

Tinseltalk

CINEMATIC giants, by Sir Anthony Hopkins: "You've got these genuses", who talk film-school language. The metaphor of the movie. I don't know what they re talking about. You've got Tarantine talking about Orson Welles Bogdanovich talking about Orson It's claptrap." Just so.

JASPER GERARD

The Bank of England should be privatised; it should mint a gold sovereign; and banknotes should be convertible on demand'

hen politicians start calling for stability. free-marketeers should reach for their revolvers. First in the firing-line should be the French President, Jacques Chirac, and the Japanese Prime Minister, Keizo Obuchi. At the weekend they joined a chorus begun by Gordon Brown and Bill Clinton's Treasury Secretary, Robert Rubin. Trying to manage a national economy in a competitive world appears to be too difficult, so they are trying to manage the world to make it less

competitive. They all argue for new international regulation of financial markets. It is not surprising that their answer is more regulation. But it is odd that liberal economists concede one of the regulators' premises. They agree that world markets are pretty free, and thus say there is no problem. But there is a problem. Markets

are not free enough. The currency speculator George Soros argued last week that global markets were "inherently unstable" and that the IMF should become "something resembling an international central bank". He was echoing recommendations made by Mr Brown and Mr Rubin.

Mr Brown has peppered a series of speeches with references to the need for "a financial architecture for the new global economy", "global financial relation", and "new global structures for the new global age. Mr Rubin has argued that "we must substantially improve the architecture of the international financial system in order to better John Laughland

prevent crises in the future". The idea that world financial markets are unregulated is, of course, precisely what free marketeers should like about them. But nothing could be further from the truth. All currencies are pure state creations: they are not titles to any property or commodity and their value depends on how well the government or the central bank manages them. Any state-controlled good is bound to fluctuate wildly in value because the state is a very clumsy regulator of supply. As the Soviet experience showed, state products swing from being in absurd

surplus to chronic deficit. The fact that financial instruments and trading technology

have developed so greatly is noindication that the market is freer. You might as well argue that the development of burglar alarm technology is evidence of improved public security.

prior to 1914, broadly speaking, a banknote was a receipt for gold deposited with a bank. The holder could redeem it for that coin. Consequently the currency was a commodity, obeying the normal laws of supply and demand. Between 1914 and 1971 a series of state-inspired assaults were

mounted to destroy this natural

order and to nationalise the

control of money. States simply

absolved central banks of their

euro is only the latest example of states colluding to strip citizens of rights, and it is because inconvertible paper currencies are an enormous accretion of state power that EMU is such an important constitutional issue. until recently - support for free trade and gold as the currency have been conjugated together. The theories of Adam Smith are

obligation to redeem their bank

notes, in cash. It is just as if a

private bank refused to honour

its cheques or denied account

holders access to their own

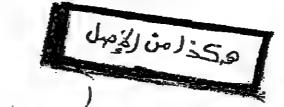
money. The introduction of the

Throughout British history incomprehensible without understanding his support for metallically convertible currencies whose supply did not depend on the State. Richard Cobden, the Liberal who led the Manchester

laissez-faire movement, wrote: "I hold all idea of regulating the currency to be an absurdity. The currency should regulate itself; it must be regulated by the trade and commerce of the world."

The right response to global regulation is not to support the status quo of state-sponsored world monetary disorder. It is to return to the monetary regime Britain traditionally champi-oned. The Bank of England should be privatised; it should mint a gold coin, the sovereign; and banknotes should be issued which are convertible on demand into it. It is only by re-establishing a rule-based monetary regime domestically that markets can be stabilised at the international level.

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A FRESH WIND

Brown takes the right course, Blair the wrong one

It was supposed to be the relaunch of the still possible for those who support Government after the Mandelson affair; instead the Government is already planning the relaunch of Peter Mandelson. Tony Blair is said to be keen to reinstate his disgraced Trade Secretary in about 18 months' time, before the next general election. If he really wants voters to believe that Labour is different from "the last lot", he should remember the errors of the Major administration and determine not to repeat them.

Prime among the annoyances of the last Government was the lack of contrition that ministers showed when they made mistakes. This Government, in this affair, has been just as bad. Mr Mandelson protested on the day he resigned that he had not "done anything wrong or improper". Mr Blair was content to back him.

Yet the former Trade Secretary did something that was clearly both wrong and improper. Whether or not he misled the Britannia Building Society, he certainly neglected to ask his leader's permission to borrow a vast sum from a colleague only months before the election. Presumably he failed to do so for fear that the answer would be "no". And the answer would have been "no" because the arrangement with Geoffrey Robinson would have looked improper in government.

Once he was a minister, Mr Mandelson should have told the Prime Minister. immediately of the loan. He should also have told his Permanent Secretary. That he did not do so was wrong, and it was improper. Mr Blair - a man who wears

his morals heavily - must surely see this. If so, why does he not understand the importance of making his former lieutenant pay proper penance for his misdemeanour? Some of Mr Blair's colleagues in the party who are demanding a lengthier sentence have another agenda: they always disliked Mr Mandelson and distrusted his politics. Their problems are their own. It is soon after such a disgrace.

Labour's modernisation to argue that Mr Mandelson should spend a respectable period out of office before being considered for an invitation back.

The former Trade Secretary must yet learn to curb the hubris that led to his nemesis. Yer everything that Mr Blair is doing seems designed to bolster the overweaning pride that is Mr Mandelson's weakness. It was because Mr Mandelson thought that he was not subject to the normal rules of politics that he took such a foolhardy risk. To be reinstated within 18. months also breaks the normal rules of politics: it would reinforce Mr Mandelson's delusions of exceptionality.

So does his retention as a party ambassador liaising with Bodo Hombach of the German SPD. Their meeting last week in London was held not at party headquarters or in the House of Commons but at the Cabinet Office, presumably with the help of civil servants. Mr Mandelson must feel that his exile has been no longer than that of his fellow countrymen who had a break over Christmas and new year.

The Prime Minister obviously misses his close friend immensely. He probably still feels dependent upon him for advice on policy, tactics and strategy. Yet, if what he most valued about Mr Mandelson was his judgment, should he not now, after his friend's startling lapse, begin to reassess his sources of advice?

Everyone is now trying to learn lessons from this débacle. A chastened Gordon Brown, for instance, delivered a word-perfect new Labour speech yesterday with fulsome praise for his friend and rival, Mr Blair. The Prime Minister himself must also think again. With Labour always looking for a fresh wind, he could let Mr Mandelson loose on campaigning before the election. But even "the last lot" would not have countenanced a return to office so

REAL GERMANS

Populist politics meet unpleasant prejudice

Germany's Christian Democrats and their sister party in Bavaria, the Christian Social Union, have been too preoccupied by the wrangling following their defeat in October to offer any challenge so far to Gerhard Schröder's coalition. But at the weekend the two parties confirmed that they are to go ahead with an action that is certain in the long run to damage both parties and provoke the kind of suspicion across urone that would ill serve Bonn as it shoulders the European Union presidency.

At issue is the emotive question of race. Germany is one of the few countries in Western Europe that still equates citizenship with blood and soil. Under legislation passed in 1913, only foreigners who can lay claim to a German bloodline are entitled to German citizenship. Apart from the unpleasant association with the Nazis' Nuremberg laws on racial purity, the law is patently unsuffed to today's conditions.

There are now some seven million foreigners living in Germany, of whom the largest group, the Turks, number over two million. Many arrived as Gastarbeiter in the 1960s, welcome hands to do the dirty jobs. Most did not return, and now their children, and even grandchildren, have grown up in Germany, speaking, feeling and acting German. Yet very few have been able to acquire German citizenship; and most are excluded from civic life, confined by a still suspicious population to. mental and physical ghettos.

The anomaly of their status has become all the more glaring in view of the huge numbers of "ethnic" Germans who have flooded in from Romania and the former

Soviet Union. Most are the descendants of emigrants 200 years ago, speak little or no German and have little cultural affinity with the Federal Republic. They have been granted citizenship, housing, benefits and acceptance. Meanwhile, Bayaria recently deported to Istanbul a 14-year-old boy convicted of various offences even though he was born and bred in Germany.

The Social Democrats, responding to sharn criticism at home and al discrimination, announced the offer of dual citizenship to foreigners permanently resident. Most Turks want to keep their Turkish passports, partly to be eligible for inheritance in Turkey. But the CSU has begun a campaign, dragging in the CDU, to draw up a petition of protest. The Bavarians speak darkly of "mass immigration" and enfranchising terrorists, especial-ly extremist Kurds. Responding to the xenophobia that shows itself all too often in the burning of asylum hostels and anti-Turkish violence, they are attempting to woo the far Right by exploiting the oft refregated consensus that Germany is not a

destination for immigrants. These tactics are stupid and dangerous... The CDU, seeking also a populist cause, has balanced its support with a call for better integration of foreigners into German society. But it must know that the rhetoric of race, in Germany in particular, can carry politics to extremes. It should have no part in this wrong-headed appeal to prejudice. The Government should do what it has honourably proposed: grant belated civic equality to all those born and bred in Germany.

ONCE TWO IS TWO

And once upon a time children knew the rest

Schoolchildren have moaned about learning their times tables for centuries. An anonymous ditty from the end of the 16th century wails: "Multiplication is vexation, Division is as bad; The Rule of three doth puzzle me, and practice drives me mad." Since then, although pupils' suffering has been lessened by the invention of the calculator and the spread of fashionable education theories, a growing number of children leave school barely able to perform the most basic sums. Yesterday. David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, attempted to reverse this trend. Primary schoolchildren are to be taught more mental arithmetic, especially their tables. Calculators will be banned for children under eight. Such common sense is welcome and overdue - even though it might madden, vexate and puzzle pupils and their teachers.

Squeals from the classroom are unlikely to bother the Education Secretary. Mr. Blunkett has promised to resign if, by 2002. three-quarters of 11-year-olds fail to achieve the standard expected for their age in mathematics and English. This is a challenging target as only 59 per cent-achieved this in last year's maths tests. Mr Bhinkett's willingness to fall on his sword shows admirable determination to meet his aim, and his strategy to raise standards reflects an insightful analysis of why standards are so low.

Like other subjects, the teaching of maths. has been deconstructed by progressive

theorists. Instead of teachers imparting a body of knowledge which pupils learnt, sometimes by rote, these educationists claim that children should discover mathematical skills by experience. The purpose of the subject has gradually switched from being less about proof than investigation. By guesswork and experimentation, pupils are to learn mental arithmetic on an individual voyage of discovery, often guided by a calculator, rather than being taught by a teacher instructing the whole

This approach has disastrous consequences. Having failed to master their times tables, young children lack the mental building blocks on which further progress depends. Some school-leavers are unable to add fractions or are ignorant of simple algebra. Without the mental crutch of a calculator, which hides arithmetic processes and magically produces the result to a sum, many children are baffled by such rudimentary challenges as calculat-

ing the cost of five items in a supermarket. Tough measures are needed to cleanse schools of these corrosive theories which have permeated deep into the culture of English education. The Conservatives are right to caution about the dangers of over-zealous meddling in every school's affairs. But they should remember that numeracy, like literacy, is a basic skill which every parent expects their child to acquire, and which too many schools are failing to impart.

TERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Nursing shortage and NHS decline

From Mr Roy Lilley.

Sir. In as much as the shortage of nurses is contributing to the present ills of the National Health Service freports and leading article, January 11), the difficulty is almost entirely of the nurses own making.
Since the introduction of Project

2000 in 1990, nurse leaders have insisted on an almost exclusive graduate-entry training scheme for their members, effectively ending the ap-prenticeship approach to training. In consequence, student nurses are dislocated from the NHS, attached to university departments, and spend far less time on the wards, Indeed, they are not even counted as part of the hospital complement.

Furthermore, as young graduates have a range of other careers open to them, nursing becomes increasingly less able to attract students from a world of work offering company cars and no shift-working. There are currently 13,000 vacancies for nurses in the United Kingdom, and in 1996-97, for the first time ever, there was a shortfall in candidates for nurse-training places.

There are approximately 400,000 nurses in the NHS and it is foolish to suppose they should, or could, all be graduates. The time has come for a review of nursing and to hasten the return of the state enrolled nurse, trained from the ranks of the bright and the interested who may fall short of university requirements but could, nevertheless, be trained to do the job out of a sense of vocation.

Elitist nurse leaders see an exclusive group of professionally qualified nurses as a way of levering up pay and improving status. It is a policy that is not realistic and has collapsed, doing irrecoverable damage.

A two-tiered nursing strategy, allowing for highly qualified nurses to work at the high-tech end of nursing and for trained nurses to do the work more conventionally associated with their profession, is a practical solu-

Sincerely, ROY LILLEY (Chairman, Homewood NHS Trust, 1991-94). 57 Yockley Close, Camberley, Surrey GU15 IQQ. January 11.

From Dr Stephen J. D. Brecker

Sir. The current crisis in the National Health Service reflects conditions that are only a little worse than those in which the NHS functions normally. Few clinicians in the front line believe that the service can continue in its current state.

A. 6 per cent increase in the demands on a service which functions at 95 per cent capacity will overwhelm it; yet at times like this the public expects and demands a better service - largely because of the failure of successive electorates to demand substantially increased health spending. The turning point has, I believe, arrived, and now the NHS will not be helped by £1 million or even £1 billion one-off winter cash supplements.

A fundamental rethink is required on what we wish the NHS to provide and how it is funded. The service we have is all that we can expect for close to 7 per cent of our gross domestic product; a service which better meets demand requires us to spend more -9 or 10 per cent would bring us in line

with other major EU countries.
If we really want this, we shall have to make sacrifices elsewhere, having first conducted a properly informed public debate (something which has never taken place). We must choose between our health service and other major demands on revenue which might impact on our standing in the world political and defence arena.

As anyone who attends international medical conferences knows, our current world standing is being undermined by our inability to deliver first rate healthcare.

Yours faithfully. STEPHEN BRECKER (Consultant cardiologist. St George's Hospital, Tooting), 82 Regent Court, 1 North Bank, NW8 8UW. January 11.

Interest rate cuts From Mr J. R. Anderson

Sir. Economists have noted that interest rates at virtually nil levels have failed to revitalise the Japanese economy. Surprisingly, there has been little recognition that rate reduc-tions could similarly fail here (reports, January 81.

The demographic age profile in the UK means that for a large proportion of the population investment income is a significant factor, particularly in respect of discretionary spending. Re-duced interest on savings accounts has an immediate impact and, given an unwillingness to reduce the capital base which underwrites future income, the obvious recourse is to reduce spending. The problem for those dependent on dividend income is compounded by the decision to eliminate or halve the tax credit reciaim.

Interest rate reductions are a crude instrument for economic control and their effects are not nearly as predictable as some might assume.

Yours sincerely, J. R. ANDERSON. 4 Vardon Drive, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 2AQ.

Do term-time holidays matter?

From the Head of The Duchess's County High School

Sir, I enjoyed Libby Purves's gentle mockery of the National Association of Head Teachers, David Blunkett. the Downing Street "spokes-prig" and the Blair children's headmaster, on the matter of the one-day term-time holiday ("A note to the head", January 5; see also letters, January 4 and 7): of the possible threats to the attainment of my admirable students, the occa-sional family holiday in term time

does not seem very significant.

A much greater threat arises from the extraordinary inequality of funding in the nation's schools. No student of mine has a single textbook to take home: in some cases we have half a set of textbooks shared between four classes, ie, one book between eight students, and we have one quarter of the average number of computers in English secondary schools.

Not all schools are facing difficul-

ties of this order. For example, the London Oratory School's budget this year is £3.9 million for its 1,350 students (Funding Agency for Schools figures); mine is £2.2 million for my 1,025 students. The simple pro-rata difference is £1.3 million. Allowing for the Inner London weighting and the 15 per cent extra which grant maintained schools receive, there remains a pro-rata difference of nearly \$1 million per year.

The Government promised to review the system, but has postponed any action for three years, presumably because redistribution, a word absent from new Labour's lexicon, might alienate newly acquired Labour voters in prosperous areas.

I do not argue that the London Oratory School is over-funded: quite the reverse. I criticise Tony Blair for failing to ensure that the advantages which our taxes provide for his children are enjoyed by children across the country.

Yours faithfully. G. THOMPSON, Head, The Duchess's County High School. Howling Lane, Alnwick, Northumberland NE66 IDH. January 7.

From the General Secretary of the NAHT

Sir, Libby Purves berates me for criticising parents who totally ignore school policies on families taking holidays during term time.

Head teachers are well aware of the difficulties which some families have finding the time for holidays during the 14 weeks which are available out of term time. However, the law requires the

consent of the head before the child is taken away for up to ten days in any school year. Accordingly, it is untena-ble to portray heads who attempt to implement school policies as people who are riding rough-shod over parental rights.

It is not the General Secretary of the NAHT who is a "joyless militant" on this issue. The NAHT is simply reflecting the basic fact that thousands of schools have clear policies, endorsed by governing bodies on which parents have a voice, which do not permit family holidays during

These schools understand that absences can damage not only the education of the children on holiday. but also the education of the rest of the pupils in the class.

Yours faithfully, DAVID HART, General Secretary, National Association of Head Teachers, I Heath Square, Boltro Road, Haywards Heath. West Sussex RHI6 IBL January 6.

From Mr John Jones

Sir, Has Tony Blair discovered what Winston Churchill once observed; that "Headmasters have powers at their disposal with which Prime Ministers have never yet been invested"?

Yours faithfully, JOHN JONES, 14 Hellings Gardens, Broadclyst, Devon EX5 3DX. petros13@aol.com

Census plan to 'pry' into religion

From Dr David Coleman

Sir, It seems increasingly likely that the 2001 census will require us to state our religious affiliation. This is bad news. Religious faith is a private matter, not to be pried into by compulsory public inquiries. Most of us, even if religious, do not

structure our lives around religion, which is the active pursuit of an increasingly small minority. It follows no important demand from the general public and relates to no general problems.

The main reason for its proposed inclusion is the desire by ethnic minority populations and their pressure groups, particularly Muslims, to be able to number and to label themselves publicly. This may be in their short-term interest, enabling them to argue for more group-related privileges and facilities and exercise power over and above that available to them as citizens.

But it is not in the national interest for the census to encourage people to segregate themselves from the rest of

the population and to emphasise their differences from each other. That way lies a new, creeping statistical apart-heid which can hardly serve the integration of minorities of immigrant origin or encourage feelings of common citizenship in a secular society. If Muslims and Sikhs want ion about their they can do their own research, as Jews and Roman Catholics have

It was bad enough having questions on our ethnic origin in the last (and forthcoming) census. I hope that public opposition to this further divisive proposal will persuade Mr Straw and the Government to think

Yours faithfully, DAVID COLEMAN (Reader in Demography, University of Oxford), Department of Applied Social Studies and Social Research, Barnett House, Wellington Square, Oxford OXI 2ER. January 8.

Castle and Gunter

From Dr Peter Bartrip

Sir, Your report on Ray Gunter's resignation as Harold Wilson's Min-ister of Power (Minister quits over 'that bitch Barbara Castle' ", January 1) records the resigning minister's less than flattering opinion of Mrs Castle, as she then was.

Although you were unable to elicit any reaction from Lady Castle, her views on Mr Gunter are recorded in The Castle Diaries, 1964-70, published in 1984. There, in the true spirit of Labour

fraternity, she describes her former colleague as both "contemptible" and "despicable and dangerous".

Yours etc. PETER BARTRIP, 8/10 Stanton Harcourt. Witney, Oxford OX8 IRI. January 2

Honour in politics

From Mr G. E. F. Williams

Sir. Michael Gove is quite wrong to suggest (article, January 5) that Lord Carrington resigned as Foreign Secretary because he admitted "wrongdoing", let alone "impropriety". He resigned because he accepted responsibility for a policy that had turned out badly. In other words, he resigned on a point of honour. In the Age of Spin such a thing is, of course, unimaginable.

Yours faithfully. G. E. F. WILLIAMS. 8 Bankside. Dunton Green. Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 2UA.

January 5.

Letters to the Editor that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number -- 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Diet and health

From Mr F. Paul Taylor

Sir, Mrs Peggy Edwards should happily eat Delia's pastry and custard (letter, December 30; see also letters, lanuary 8). Before the First World War people lived on fatty meat, real cream, cheese and butter and the staple food of the poor was bread and dripping. Yet death from coronary thrombosis was virtually unknown.

As Dr Alan B. Shrank pointed out in his letter (December 28), the idea that saturated fats might cause arterial disease was put forward by Dr Hugh Sinclair in 1951 and, despite much evidence to the contrary, has persisted ever since. In fact, as the eminent nutritionist Dr Ronald Finn pointed out in your columns (letter, May 24, 1994) "the great pandemic of heart disease commenced in the early part of this century" and, aided by the onset of mass smoking during the First World War, has exactly paralelled the consumption of artificially hydrogenated fats, introduced in

1909, ever since. Reduction of natural saturated fats in our diet doesn't reduce the chance of heart disease. But I avoid artificially hydrogenated fats like the plague.

Yours faithfully F. PAUL TAYLOR, 7 Kingsway, Frodsham, Cheshire WA6 6RU.

Golden years

From Mr Stanley Armstrong

Sir, Mr John Pullan (letter, January 5) need not necessarily resign himself to the onset of old age. On the authority of The Chambers Dictionary (1998), in perhaps the only joke in its 1,984 pages, middle-aged is defined as between youth and old age, variously reckoned to suit the reckoner".

Yours faithfully. STAN ARMSTRONG. 10 Regency Road, Malvern Link, Worcestershire WR14 IEB. January 6.

Dearth of officers of humble origins

From Mr John Douce

Sir. Since Major Eric Joyce published his comments on the social "elite" at senior levels of the Army (report, August 4, 1997; letter, August 7, 1997) I have been reading the obituaries published in *The Times*, looking out for senior military officers who achieved success from humble beginnings and/or rose through the ranks. There

appear to be very few. Two I recall were Enoch Powell, a man of truly exceptional intellect, and an admiral who rose through the engineering side of the Royal Navy in

Practically all the distinguished officers who featured were given a good start to their careers by being part of a famous family with good connections and/or educated at an expensive school. Considering their ages and the times in which most of those men made their marks, one should not be surprised that the landed gentry feature prominently.

What surprises me most is that I have not seen as much comment as I would have expected from either serving or recently retired officers pointing out that things have, in fact,

changed over recent years. Are there any examples of generals who started in, say, the Junior Leaders Regiment?

Yours (aithfully, JOHN DOUCE, 8 Bedford Close, Fordingbridge, Hampshire SP6 IHE. January 8.

Addressing postcodes

From Mr D. T. Johnson

Sir, Why use postcodes (letters, December 28: January I and 6)? One might well ask. I regularly receive mail not only with the wrong postcode, but also addressed to the wrong person.

These letters are correctly addressed but, despite several protests to the Post Office, I continue to receive them. Perhaps I should move to a

different road. Yours faithfully, DAVID JOHNSON, 97 London Road, Oadby (not Leicester) LE2 5DP. dij@le.ac.uk January 7.

From Mr Henry J. Pomeroy

Sir, As postcodes are so important, why are they no longer included in the addresses of those listed in telephone directories?

Yours faithfully, HENRY J. POMEROY, Hare & Hounds House, Stoughton, Somerset BS28 4PT. henry.pomeroy@btinternet.com

From Mrs Sheila Rowland

Sir. Hard to believe this, but about two years ago I received a letter on which the only words written were "Silver Winds". The Post Office had written, "Try East Horsley". Clever, but rather spooky.

Yours sincerely, SHEILA ROWLAND, Silver Winds, Woodland Drive, East Horsley, Surrey KT24 SAN. January 8.

From Mr Christopher Y. Nutt Sir, In 1929, when my late father was working at the Cavendish Labora-tories in Cambridge, he received a letter from the US in regular time addressed simply, "Mr Nutl, physicist, England".

In modern times I have lived in an area of Pimlico postcoded SWIV. Naturally 1, and no doubt many others, found our mail was redirected via Clapham SW4, as the result of the efforts of some redundant classicist in the employ of the Post Office.
So much for technological progress.

Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER Y. NUTT, Little Abington, Cambridge CBI 6BO. January 6.

Light in the darkness

From Mr David Lewis

Sir, Amid recent discussion about the millennium bug I was not surprised to hear an elderly aunt referring to next year as "the malarium".

Yours faithfully. D. A. LEWIS, The Basement Flat. 34 Lime Grove, Bideford, Devon EX39 4HY. January 7.

From Mr Peter Hollindale

Sir. It is disappointing to see that the Prince of Wales and many churchmen have apparently reacted dismissively to the proposed millennium candlelighting ceremony. The idea is a uniquely appropriate blend of super-

stition and practicality. A candle lit at 11.58pm next New Year's Eve may be very handy two minutes later, when the lights go out. A prayer would not come amiss.

Yours faithfully, PETER HOLLINDALE. 6 Grange Garth. Fulford Road, York YO! 4BS. January 5.

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM HOUSE Council at 12.30.

There were present: the Right Honourable Margaret Beckett, MP (President), the Right Honourable Derek Fatchett, MP (Minister of State Foreign and Common-wealth Office) and the Right Honourable Sir Robin Janvrin (Deputy Private Secretary to The

The Right Honourable Stephen Byers, MP, received the Seals of

SW5, at 6.

Today's royal

engagements

Prince Edward, as patron. Ocean

Youth Club, will visit the London Boat Show, Earls Court, London

The Princess Royal, as president

Animal Health Trust, will attend a dinner at Arley Hall, Knutsford.

Princess Margaret, as president, The Guide Association, will give a reception for Queen's Guides at Kensington Palace at 5.

Mr Graham Lockwood, Chairman

of the Discussion Group of the

Royal Over-Seas League, and Sir

Geoffrey Ellerion, chairman of the

eague, welcomed members and

their guests at a new year party held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's. Mr Stephen de

Pledge, piano, winner of the

accompanist prize in the league's 1998 music competition, played

The High Commissioner for Aus-

tralia was the guest of honour at a

held last night at Trinity House.

Mr Paul Rippon, Master, presided and Mr Rohan Courtney also

spoke. During the dinner the Master presented the Woolmen's

Company-Lord Barnby Bursary medal and prize to Miss Deborah

Hayes. Among others present

Tonga, the Earl of Limerick (chair-

man. Britain-Australia Society),

Mr Ian Hartley (managing direc-

tor, British Wool Marketing

Board), the Masters of the Cloth-

workers', Framework Knitters',

Glass Sellers' Scriveners' Mer-chants of Edinburgh, Merchant

Taylors of York and the Incorpora-

tion of Weavers' Fullers' and

Shearmen of Exeter Companies

and the Upper Bailiff of the

Mr John Simpson was the speaker

at an Athenseum dinner held last

night in Pall Mall. Mr Bruce

Weavers' Company.

The Athenaeum

during the evening.

Woolmen's Company

Dinners

Royal Over-Seas League

Office as Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, and President of the Board of Trade, and made affirmation and kissed hands upon appointment as a Member of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Mr Alex Galloway was it

attendance as Clerk of the Council. ST JAMES'S PALACE January II: The Prince of Wales this morning received The Right Honourable Alun Michael. MP. The Secretary of State for Wales.

Memorial services Sir Richard Turabull

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were represented by Colonel R.A. Coxwell-Rogers, Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Gloucestershire, at a memorial service for Sit Richard Turnbull, former diplomat, held on Friday at Holy Trinity, Minchinhampton, Glou-cestershire, Canon Michael Irving officiated and gave an address.

Mr Rupert Turnbull and Dr
Richard Weller, grandsons, read
the lessons and Caroline Weller (Mrs Jonathan Knight), grand-daughter, read a letter from Sir Richard and with Ms Alexandra Weaver, soprano, and Mr David Mattinson, baritone, sang Soave sia il vento from Mozart's Cost fan

The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and the Permanent Under-Secretary of State and Head of the Diplomatic Service were represented by Sir Michael Pike, The Deputy High Commissioner of Tanzania attended and the Order of St Michael and

St George was represented by Sir John Graham, Registrar. Mr and Mrs Julian Tumbull and Mr and Mrs Ian Tumbull (sons and daughters-in-law), Mrs Alison Weller (daughter), Miss Fiona Turnbull (granddaughter), Mrs Rupert Turnbull, Mr Jonath-an Knight and many other friends

Jocelyn Lady Londesborough

A memorial service for Jocelyn Lady Londesborough was held on Friday at Holy Trinity Church, Bembridge, Isle of Wight. The Right Rev Edward Roberts official and save an address assisted by ed and gave an address, assisted by the prayers and read the lesson.

Air Vice-Marshal Ross Harding A service of thanksgiving for the bife of Air Vice-Marshal Ross Harding was held on Friday at the Church of St John the Evangelist, Lower Bemerton, Salisbury. The Rev Alan Archer officiated, assisted by the Rev George Kay, who led the prayers. The Rev John Green, representing the National ex-Prisoners of War Association, read the lesson.

Mr Glyn Evans, Air Marshal Sir Roy Austin-Smith and Mr Russell Harding, son, paid tribute. Members of the family, friends and

Birthdays today

Miss Kirstie Alley, actress, 44; Mr Anthony Andrews, actor, 51: Mr Michael Aspel, broadcaster, 66: Miss Alison Ball. QC, 51: Sir Charles Ball, company director, 75; Lord Boardman, 80; Mr P.W. Botha, former President of South Africa, 83: Sir James Bottomley. former diplomat. 79; the Hon Sir Richard Butler, former president, National Farmers' Union, 70: Dame Fiona Caldicott, Principal, Somerville College, Oxford, 58; Lady Cosgrove. High Court Judge, 53: Miss Stella Cunliffe. statistician, 82: Mr Keith Dawson, former Headmaster, Haberdashers' Aske's School, 62; Mr

tator. 51; Mr Joe Frazier, boxer. 55; Baroness Harrwee, 52: Baroness Hilton of Eggardon. 63: Miss Anne Howells, concert and opera singer, 58; Sir Anthony McCowan, former Lord Justice of Appeal, 71; Mr Denys Milne, former managing director, BP Oil, 73: Mr James Mornmer, former general secretary, Labour Party, 78; the Very Rev Dr John Moses, Dean of St Paul's, 61; Mr Des O'Connor, entertainer, 67; Sir John Rennie, former Governor-General, Mauritius. 82: Sir Terence Streeton, former diplomat, 69; Lord Justice Swinton Thomas, 68: Mr Peter Wilson, theatrical producer, 48.



The actress Kirstie Alley, who is 44 today

School announcements

Charterhouse The Long Quarter begins today. Timothy Burke-Murphy remains Head of School and Angeline Abbott Head Girl. Nicholas Gay and Lorraine Galliers are Captains of Hockey. The Bishop of Dorking will conduct a Service of Confirmation on Saturday, February 6, at 5,00pm. The Peter Newton Scholarship interviews for entry into the Sixth Form will be held on Friday, March 5: details from the Adm sions Registrar. Queen's Exeat is from Friday, February 12, to Wednesday, February 17. The Quar-ter ends on Saturday, March 20. March 26.

Chigwell School Lent Term at Chigwell starts today and ends on Tuesday, March 30. Entrance Examinations for 7 to 10 Year Olds and External Sixth Form tions will be held on Saturday. and Harnetts Scholarship Examinations as well as the Interviews for External Sixth Form Candidates will take place on Saturday, Janu-ary 23. The Music Scholarships Auditions and Interviews will be conducted on Monday, February I. The Art School and Sculptor Court are proud to present 'Fusion' an exhibition of the work of Mary and Anwar Sehmza from Friday, January 15, until Friday, February 12. The Middle School Play Lord of the Flies and the Junior School Play The Demon Headmaster will be performed on Wednesday, Febru-ary 10, and Wednesday and Thursday, February 24 and 25 respectively. The Lent Term Concert takes place on Thursday, March 4, followed by a Joint Concert with the

Chigwellian Choral Society at St James's, Clerkenwell on Saturday, March 20. The Business Management Conference will be held on Friday and Saturday, February 5 and 6. Finally the Old Chigwellia Shrove Tuesday Supper takes place Tuesday, February 23, and those who wish to attend should contact the Headmaster's Secretary. Churcher's College

Spring Term at Churcher's College begins today. The College entrance examination will take place on Saturday, January 30. Half term is

from February 13 to February 21. The Captain of Boys Hockey is Simon Freedman and the Captain of Girls Hockey is Sarah Page, It is anticipated that the new Library will be completed by half-term and work on the new Science block will begin in January. The four major Sixth Form scholarships have been awarded to Nicola Olle, Frances Curtis, James Martin and Ben Martin. The OCC dinner at the East India Club will be held on Friday, May 14, and bookings can be made through the College office. Term ends on Friday,

Dulwich College The Lent Term begins today, Sam Roberts continues as Captain of School: Sameer Tanna is Captain of Hockey and James Harris is Captain of Soccer. The Annual Piano Competition will be held on February 2, adjudicator Miss Clara Taylor, Chief Examiner of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, and House Music will be held on March 10. The Friends of Dulwich College Caledonian Ball will be held on February 6. The Guest of Honour at the Cricketers' Dinner on February 26 will be Mr Trevor Bailey, CBE (OA). The Courses and Careers Conference will be on Saturday, February 27. A concert of Chamber and Choral Music will be held in the Chapel of the former Royal Navai College, Greenwich on March 24. Half term is from February 13 to 21 and term ends on

Registered charity No 312755. Lockers Park School The Spring Term begins at Lockers Park today. A number of celebrations to mark this 125th Anniversary Year will commence with Choral Evensong on February 7 (The Bishop of Bedford). Please contact the Headmaster for further details of the Spring Fete. the Ball, the Old Boys' Dinner and other planned events.

March 26.

Malvern Girls' College The Spring Term begins today. Scholarship examinations for September 1999 entry at 11+, 12+ and 13-, and Music, Art and Sport take

place from January 18 to 21. Entrance examinations at 11- are on January 25 and 26, and at 12. and 13+ on February 22 and 23. Half term is February 17 to 21. The Laurel Fay Instrumental Music Competition takes place on Sun-day, February 23. Term ends on Friday, March 26.

Pocklington School The Lent Term at Pocklington School, York, begins today. The Right Rev Gordon Bates, Bishop of Whitby, will conduct the Confir mation Service at All Saints mation Service at All Saints'
Church on Thursday, February II,
1999. Old Pocklingtonian Evenings this term are to be in
Cambridge on Saturday, February 20, and in Newcastle on
Saturday, March & Term will end on Friday, March 26, 1999. The Princess Helena

Spring term begins today and ends on March 26. Hafsat Inuwa is Head of School with Lorna Quince and Idil Peker as her Deputies. The Junior Scholarship and Entrance Examinations take place on Saturday, February 6. The Spring Concert will be held on March 20 at 7.30pm in The Princess Alice Hall, Future dates for next term - Summer Ball June 26, Sports Day and Garden Party July 3, Speech Day July 10 (for further information please contact Sir John Stephenson A service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir John Stephenson will be the school office on 01462 432100). Royal Russell School, Croydon A remion for all Old Russellian held at The Temple Church, ECA. on Thursday, January 21, at 5pm. who were at Ballards or Russell Hill Schools will be held on Saturday, May 8, 1999. For details Ratcliffian Association

St Dunstan's College Term began on Monday, January II, at St Dunstan's College. Cap-tain of Fives is Richard Mitchell. The II+ Entrance Examination is on Tuesday, January 19. The Lent Term Concert is on Wednesday. Pebruary 3. Dramatic productions include Electra on Pebruary 9 and 10 and the Preparatory Depart-ment play Oliver runs from March 18 to 20. The Guest of Honour at the Armstrong Society Dinner on March 12 will be Professor Alastair Bellingham,

please telephone 0181 657 4433.

Forthcoming marriages

The engagement is announced between Martin, son of Mr and

Mrs Ray Chinnery, of Gorey, Jersey, and Amber, elder daughter

of Mrs Sunny Hall, of Southamp-

George Dumbell, of Wassenaar,

Netherlands, and Annabel Jane.

younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Simmons, of Richmond.

The engagement is announced between Sammy, son of Mr and Mrs S. Edwards, of Edgware,

Middlesex and Sarah daughter of Mr and Mrs P.D. Wild, of

The engagement is announced between Julian, elder son of Mr

P.B. Fielding, of Cambridge, and Mrs J.R. Fielding, of Teddington, Middlesex, and Kellie, only daugh-ter of Mr and Mrs Jack Durrwoody,

daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Robinson of Aldsworth, West Sussex.

The engagement is announce

between Henry, son of Mr and Mrs Christopher Hare, of Credi-

ton, Devon, and Isabel, daughter of Mr and Mrs Giles Le Maitre, of

The engagement is announced

tween Neil, elder son of Mr Noel

Mr H.W.T. Hare

and Miss L. Le Maitre

Mr N.O.N. Hughes and Miss K.L. Sankey

of Cape Town, South Africa.

Mr E.S. Gleason and Miss P.J. Robinso

Mr M.R. Chinnery and Miss A.J. Simpson

ton. Hammshire.

Surrey.

Mr S.P. Edwards

and Miss S.F. Wild.

Mr J.A. Fielding

and Miss K.A. Du

Mr.M.R.G. Dumbell

and Miss A.J. Simmons

and Miss A.J. Bailie

The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr Kenneth Baker, of Radwinter, Essex, and the late Mrs Jean Paton, and Alexandra Jane, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs John A.H. Bailie, of Palo Alto, California, USA.

The Hon Percy Bewicke Copley

The engagement is announced between Percy, younger son of the late Lord Cromwell and of the Dowager Lady Cromwell, of Sherborne. Gioucestershire. and Tracey, daughter of Mr and Mrs Charles Raymond Chapman. of Polton Hall, Bonnyrigg, Midkithian.

Mr R.J. Bowers and Miss O.C. Elion Lockhart The engagement is announced between Rupert, elder son of the late Dr John Bowers and of Mrs. Bowers: of Lincoln, Lincolnshire, and Olivia, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs Alastair Eliott Lockhart,

Mr.N.A. Carr and Miss Z.P. Litherland

of Fulham, SW6.

The engagement is announced between Neil, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Alan Carr, of Paignton, Devon, and Zol, only daughter of Colonel and Mrs Rupert Litherland, of East Claydon, Buck-

Mr R.W. Geon and Miss S.A. Chandler

The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of the late Mr Edgar George and of Mrs George, of Ledbury, Herefordshire, and Sarah, elder daughter of the late Mr Eric Chandler and of Mrs Chandler, of Chiswick, Lon-

Mr B.E. Nalhantis and Miss T.E.L. Bilton

The engagement is announced between Basil, son of the late Mr John Nalbantis, of Veria, Greece and of Mrs Kyveli Conyon, of Vanderbijlpark, South Africa, and Tanya, daughter of Mr Godfrey Bilton, of Monte Carlo, Monaco. and Mrs Anne Passey, of Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

The 1999 London Dinner will be

held in The Crypt at St Ethel-dreda's, Ely Place, on Priday, February 12 Booking forms from The Secretary, 14 Ely Place, Lon-don ECIN 6RY (pel 0171 40S 1061, for 017 40S 7440)

Honorary degrees have been awarded to the following:

Jeremy Paxman, broadcaster, jour-ralist and author; Murray Pera-

hia manist: Jack Straw, Socretary

of State for the Home Department. Or John Walker, chemist.

fex 0171 405 7440).

Lords

University news

Hughes, of Belmont, Belfast, and the late Mrs Prances Hughes, and Karen, daughter of Colonel and Mrs John Sankey, of Gibrakar. geini, Anglescy.

BIRTHS: Jean Baptist van Helmont, chemist, Brussels, 1580; John Winthrop, first Governor of Massachusetts, Groon; Suffolk, 1588; Lazaro Spallanzani, chemist, Mode-na, Italy, 1729; Edmund Burke, statesman, Dublin, 1729; Jo-hann Pestakozzi, educator, Zu-rich, 1746; John Singer Sarrich, 1746; John Singer Sargent, pamier, Florence, 1856; Sir Charles Oman, historian, Muzzifarpur, India, 1860, Jack London, novelist, San Francisco, 1876; Ferenc Molnar, dramanist; Budapest, 1878; Curbastron Gregorio Ricci, mathematician, Italy, 1883; Hermann Goering, Nazi war cruminal; Bavaria, 1893; Georges Carpennier, bozer, Calais, 1894.

The Royal Aeronautical Society of Great Britain was found-The British-Zulu War began,

The London Co-op opened the first supermarket in London at

BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

FAX: 0171 481 9313

You will say in that days I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were anger turned away, and you comforted me. Issiah 12.1 (NRSV).

BIRTHS

AZUMI - On January 5th at The Portland Hospital to Mis and Takeshi, a son,

BARRETT - On lennary 8th, 1999 at The Portland Hospital to Stephanic (née Bates) and Chris, 8 beautiful daughter, Isobel Slena

BONSER - On January 3rd 1999, in Singapore, to Barbara (née Fuller) and Andrew, à son, Alestair William, à brother for

CORDEN - On Friday January 8th 1999, to Mary (pée Reid) and Paul, a son, James Alexander.

JOHASHEN - Henry Cariton, bord 10th January 1999 to Derek and Victoria Johashen, grandson to Keith and Margaret Peacock and also to Cariton Johashen, with love.

KING - On lanuary 5th at The Portland Hospital to Lynne (nee Flavell) and IANGLEY - On January 9th at Oueen Charlotte's, Chiswick to Helen (née Holland) and John, a son, Joseph Frederick, Special thanks to Fions.

McKENZJE - On 29th er 1998 at Lerwick to Karen (née Wilson) and Gregor, a daughter, Lilli Constance.

MORRISON - On January 9th at The Portland Hospital to Charlotte (nee Dobree) and Hugh, a son, Alesteir McLeod.

MICOL-GENT - On January 5th 1999, to Joanne (née Greaves) and Philip, a daughter, Sophie Eliza.

OTTEMO - On January 5th, at Oxford, to Joanne Bass and Simon Ottino, a son, Solomon Tyler Bass.

PRS - On January 8th at The Portland Hospital to Murion (née Överberg) and Adrian, a daughter, Giorgine Ada Catharina.

Nicki (née Barciny Jacobs) and Robert, a daughter (Olivia Madeline), a sister for Hugo and Alexander. SUGARMAN - On January

Ark at The Portland SRAMINSAN - On lancary 4th at The Portland Hospital to Livia (née Sharpe) and Lawrence, a daughter, Gabriella Georgia.

WALSH - On December 21st 1998, to Melanie (née Parkin) and James, a daughter, Elizabeth Sarah Honor, 2 sister for James.

BIRTHS

VALTERS - On January 7th at The Portland Hospital to Emily (nos Phelps Brown) and Patrick, a daughter, Jemima Alice, a sister for Hugo.

WINFIELD - On January 6th at The Portland Hospital to Marths and David, a daughter, Rachel Fels, a sister for Max.

DEATHS

BECKETT - Margaret Alice (née Essen), on Saturday 9th January, peacefully at home with all her family. Beloved wife of Jack, much loved mother of Ann. Peter and Finna and adored Granny of Sophie, Samuel and Alica. Service at St. John's Church, Littlewick Green on Wednesday 20th January at 1.00pm followed by cremation (immediate family only). Family flowers only please, but donations if desired to The Children's Sociaty or Camp Mohawk, Wargrave, can be sent c/o E. Sargent & Son. 13 The Colonnade, Maidenhead SL6 1QL.

BOWDEN - Announcing the death of Mrs Shella

ceam of six Sheus Margaret Rowden (Hawkins), painter and illustrator, beloved mother and grandmother, died 10th January. Cremation 10.00am on Thursday 14th January at Putney Vale Crematorium.

Crematorium.

CHRISTOPHERSON - John
Clifford, On January 8th
1999, peacefully at Walton
Heath Manor in his 90th
year. Much loved father of
Michael and Helem, fond
grandfather and greatgrandfather. Private
Funeral. Thanksgiving
Sarvice at St.

Funeral Thanksgiving Service at \$2. Bartholomew's Church. Leigh, ar Reigate on Friday, January 22nd at 2.30pm to which all friend are welcome. Donations it desired to The SABC Clubs for Young People, c/o Stoneman Funeral Services, Doran Court, Reigate Road, Redhill. RH 6A2.

RH 6AZ.

CLARK - On 9th January
1999. Charles James Clark
O.B.E., M.A., at his London
home, also of Old
Wimpole, Cambridgeshire,
formerly of Bologue and
Recco, Italy, Beloved
friend of Peter Boggis for
36 years. Futeral will take
place at St. Jamesh. Sursayar. so years. Funeral will take place at St. James's, Sussex Gardens, W2., on Friday 15th January at 3.30pm. No flowers please, but donations to Samaritans if desired.

COFFEN - Jamet, née Wrigley, born June 4th 1898, died born June 4th 1896, died January 7th 1899, aged 102 at Park House.
Martinstown. Dorchester. Dorset, widow of Major Daniel M Coffin. R.H.A., mother of Jane and Georgia, dearly towed grandmother of 8 and great grandmother of 15. DEATHS

CRACE - Ou January 8th 1999 at The Royal Brompton Hospital, The Reverend John Allan Crace DSC aged 77, loved and loving hushand of Rosemary, father of Veronica, Sue and John and grandad of Anna and Robbie. Cremation Private. Service of Thankspiving to be held at All Saints Church, Steep, Petersfield on Wednesday January 27th at 2.30pm. Pamily flowers only, but donations if desired to RELATE Portsmouth, Dugald Drummond Street, POI 28B.

DEVOY - Brian suddenly on January 2nd aged 64, beloved husband of Amy and dearest father of Michael, Annie and Katle. Funeral at St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church, 130 St. Margarets Road, Twickenham on January 15th at 1.15pm, followed by burial at Richmond and East Sheen Cametery.

DRIVER - Marjorie Mary: On

COORE - (Captain RN)
Godfrey Arthur, died
peacefully on 8th January
1999. Beloved husband of
Pam and father of Shirley,
Vicky, Arabella and Gale.
Funeral on 20th January
at 3.30pm at the West
Norwood Crematorium,
Norwood Crematorium,
Nerwood Road,
SE27, Brquiries to Yeatman and
Sons, 384 Norwood Road,
SE27 BAA. Tel: 0181 670
1127.

DRIVER - Marjorie Mary: On 7th January aged 87, much loved widow of the late Robert Blake Driver, mother of Sally and Nick and grandmother of Andrew. Katy. Emily and William, Following a private cramation, a sawice of thankagiving will take place at 3.00pm on Friday 15th January at St Mary's Church, Stoke D'Abernon, Cobham, Surrey. No flowers, but if you wish, donations to the Princess Alice Hospice, clo James & Thomas Ltd, Mill Road, Cobham, KTI i JAL.

COCKE - Dr Alexander Macdougall pescriully on January 5th at St Lukes Hospital, Oxford in his 100th year, Family funeral memorial service to be announced later.

DRUMY - On 8th January
1999, while staying with
his daughter, at Cafn Park,
Wretham, Walter Neville
Dru Druy, TD, for 61
years the very dearest
husband of Rae, father of
Martin, Vanesse, Neil and
Lois and greatly loved by
his 12 grandchildren.
Funeral private. No
flowers, but donations to
Marie Curie Cancer Care,
c/o Caldecotts, 12
Penybryu Wrasham, LL 13
THY. Tel: 01978 281784.
Service of Thankagiving at Service of Thankagiving at St Peter's Church, Hever, Kent, on Priday 29th January at 12 noon. FORD - On January 7th 1999, peacefully at home, Charles Edmund Ford F.R.S., agad 89 years. Dearly loved husband of Jean, much loved father of Peter, Michael, Christopher and Brian, also a greatly loved granded. Funeral Service Private. Thanksgiving Enrole at St. Nicolar Church, Abingdon on Monday January 18th at 2.30pm. Family llovers only please, donations if desired for Marie Curie Cancer Care c/o Edward Carter (FD), 107 South Avenue, Ahingdon, OX14 1QS.

Admiral Roy C.B. pescefully ou January 8th, aged 94. Dearly loved heaband of Jean for sixty five years, much cherished Isther of Christopher and Robin and special. Baddad' to Mark. Tania, Anthony, Michael and Claire. Private cremation. Memorial service to be amounced.

HETUREN - Tunis died pescefully en 8th Isquary at the Chebses and Westminster Hospital. An interment service will be beld for the family in

GREER - Hearry George
Villiers (Harry), peacefully
at home surrounded by his
family on January 8th.
Bern Ceylon 1911. Served
1/14 Funjab Eegt, POW
Malaysen Campaign WWII.
Funeral at 12 noce.
Jenuary 18th at Thornford
Parish Church, near
Sherborne, Dorset. Family
flowers only. Donset. so
Marie Curle c/o W S
Brister & Son, 100 Leathey
Roed, Sherborne, Dorset.

FRASER-WILSON - At
Aberdeen Royal infirmary
on Thursday 7th January
1899, Caroline Louise aged
74 years. Survived by son
David, grandchildren
Emms. Caroline and
Richard, and daughter-inlaw Sue. Murch loved and
sodly missed. Funeral
Service on Friday 15th
January at Aberdeen
Crematorium (East
Chapel) at 2-40pm to
which all friends are
respectfully invited.
Family flowers cally,
donations in Hen to
Multiple Sclerosis Society.

GORDON - On 8th January, peacefully aged 87 years, Cecilia (née Coote and formerly Bownan) of Alnwick, beloved wife, mother and grandmother. Funeral Servica at Alnwick Cametery Chapel on Monday 25th January, at 2.00pm followed by interment. Flowers if desired to Allstair Turner Funeral Servicas, Tel. (01665) 510699.

GREN - John, late of
Brausgore, peacefully on
Jenuary 7th at the
Chalfont Lodge Nursing
Home, Chalfont St Feter,
aged 90 years. Beloved
husband of the lete Ruth,
much loved father of Jane
and Selly and grandfather
to Charles and Harrie.
Funeral Service at
Chilterus Crematorium.
Ameraham, Bucks, on
Saturday, 16th January at
12 noon. Family flowers
only, Donatious may be
made to The Friends of
Sopley Church c/o Wright
Funeral Services, 106 High
Street, Great Missenden.
Bucks, HP16 08E. REEN - John, late of

ANCEL - Alexander passed away pascefully on 10th January, aged 91, after a short diness. Adored husband, lather, grandiather and great-grandiather, He lived a wonderfully happy life which has been an example to us all.

JONES - R. Geralli, author and educator, of Ler' Doi y Bont Borth Aberystwyth, died pescelly at his home after a long illness on January 2th 1999. A very loving hunband and father, he will be so sadly missed. Family funeral in Lianiestyn on Thursday 14th January 1999. Family flowers only please. Those wishing to give thanks for Geralt's life are invited to contribute towards Christian Aid through the caring hands of DJ Evens Funeral Directors. Panthysocch. Abenystwyth. Telephone: 01970 E2024. A Thanksgiving Service will be arranged at a later date.

IONES - Christopher died on 5th lanuary, Journalist and an Arsenel Ian. He will always be remembered by Derek, Ann, Nick, Mark and Ann. Nick, Mark and Tanya. Service of Thanksgiving at St Anne's Limehouse, Commercial Road, El 40 at Thursday 14th January at 11.00 wieck. Family flowers only but please send donations in Chris' Memory to GUCH Fund c/o Dr Jane Somerville Royal Brompton Hospital Sydney Street, London SW3.

desired to I Ltd. or dop

Challent St. Giber, diad on Sth January in hospital. Sister of Joan Reyburn, sunt of Anne Wood and Stephen Reyburn, Funeral to be held at the Chilterus Crousstorium Auersham Crountorium, Ameraham on Thursday 21st Japuary at 12 noon, Flowers if desired to HC Grimstead

Cheltenhum General
Hospital on January 7th
aged 82 years. Much loved
aunt of Christopher,
David, Lyn, Andrew and
Anthony. Free will be
sadly unused by all her
relatives and many
friends. Funeral at St.
Jenses Church, Chipping
Campden at 12 noon on
Thursday, January 14th.
All enquiries to Philip
Tomlins Ltd. 01388 763133

MACKAY - Marjorie ispel (née Boyd) of Sherwood, Nettingham died peacefully in hospital on 7th Iarnary. Will be sadly missed by Joanna. Liz, Ned, Sarah and all her grandchildren. Creas tion as Bramoots, Notingham on Friday 22nd January at 9.30. Family llowers only planse - donatons if desired to a charity of your choics. Exquiries to Bagulay Brus 0:15

MENLEY - Proc. Percefully, after a abort illness at Cheltenham General

MRIAR - Donald Edgar.
Adored husband of Maggie and father of Mary-Ann.
Died pescalally after a prolonged illness at Chase Farm Hospital in Enfleid on the 7th January taged 861. Don worked for many years in the Oil Industry with Shell, BNOC and fatterly as an Independent Committant, he was well respected in the industry. The funeral will be held 10.00mm, Tamday 19th January at New Southgate Cometery and Crematorium, Erumwick Park Roed, New Southgate Cometery and Crematorium, Erumwick Park Roed, New Southgate London N11 117. A reception will be held immediately after the funeral at West Lodge Park Hotel, Cockfostery Roed, Herts En'4 OFY. Family Howars only please, but donations to Chase Farm Hospital are welcomed, immitteding that the donation is in relation to Donald Millart. Via The Chief Expositives Office, Chase Farm Hospital. The Ridgeway, Enfield, Middlesex EN'2 811.

Not LEGURN - Mary Elismore (Elle), suddenly in begrital on January 6th, aged 87. Dearly loved widow of Joseph Ralph, mother of Mary and Michael and grandmother of Christopher, Carry, Neil and Tillany. Private cremetton.

CHEMICALOR.

To place death notices, cknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880

MORGAN - Winifred
Florence pessed away
pescafully 5th January
1999 at Land Eurrey
Hospini, previously of The
World Health
Organisation and Matron
of Manchester and
Glasgow Royal
Infirmaries, siso British
Red Cross Society,
dedicated her life to
nursing. A much loved
sister and sunt, Pumeral
Service at Stoneman,
Doron Court, Reignte
Road, Redfill, on Fridsy
15th January at 1 pm. Tel:
01737 763456
MORRELL - Christine, alster

O1737 763456
MORRELI - Christine, alster
to The Right Reverend J H
L Morrell and Mary
Morrell. Died pescefully
in the morning of Sunday
10th January, Much loved
as Sister Lillen at St
Thomas' Hospital and by
many devoted friends.
Finneral in the Chapel of St
Katharine's House,
Ormoud Road, Wantage at
11.00 am Wednesday 20th
January 1999. No flowers,
contributions to St
Thomas Hospital
Childrens Ward.

OWEN - Margaret Jean

Childrens Ward.

CWEN - Margaret Jean
(Peggie) see Neatby,
peacefully at home in
Whitchurch on Thames on
7th January 1999, aged 94
years. Beloved wife of
D.G.M. Owen, much loved
mother of Henry Neatby
Owen (deceased) and of
Elizabeth and loving
grandmother of Marcus,
Kira and Jewany. Funeral
Service at Reacting
Crematorium on Mouday
18th January at 2.00pm.
Family Howers only,
donations for any
childrens charity.

PAGAN - Barbara died on

PAGAN - Barbara died om 9th January 1999 after an Ilmess borne with courage Former Headteacher of Enfletd Courage School and Education Director of the Enfleid County School and Education Director of the County family, Intends and colleagues. Funarel private. Family flowers early domarious if desired to the North London Hospice. 47 Woodside Avenue, NIZ STF. Thanksgiving Service to be announced.

be announced.

PARRISON - Patricla
France, formerly of Great
Trilley, pascefully on
January 8th 1999, aged 88.
Beloved sunt, great-sunt
and counts. Family
cremation followed by
service of Thankeriving at
St. Tellow Limitilia
Pertholoy, Abergavenny,
on Wednerday 20th
January at 2,00pm, Family
flowers only, but
dountions if wished to the
Humi Servants Repositi

Himt Servants Benefit
Society, Parsions Cottage,
Bagendon, Circacenter,
Glos. GL? 7DU, PFT - H.Dougles (Dougle) on 5th January, Much loved husband of Louisa No mouvaing and an flowers. Cremation at Mortake, Tuesday 19th

RAYNOR - On January 9th
1999, at Newton,
Marenders, Zimbubwe:
Mary Alice inde Lampard),
much loved wife of Peter,
mother of Humfrey, Giles,
Amanda and Philippa,
grandmother of Duncan,
Angels, Geraldins, John,
Thuothy, Jennifer and
Emily, and mother-in-law
of Patmy, Debbie and
Carls.

SEEN - Lumba pages of the

Chris.
SESS - Jamie, possedully
after a short illness, on 5th
Jamary, Disna's beloved
husband for 50 years,
lead and respected loved and respected father, Orancher and friend. Pamily crematic Thanksgiving later. No flowers, but if desired donations to RAF donations to RAF
donations to RAF
Benevolant Fund, or bulbs
for planting in Amen
Corner, Fawkners, where
he wanted his nakes
scattered.

ELY-Gevin Walter Hamilton. Died suddenly after a short illness in Hermanus, South Africa, 10th January 1993, Greati loved by Jana, Jani, Georgine, Glies, Alexander, Nicholas, Matthew and Gregory, ROSERTS - Suddenly on January 7th 1989, Mart Roberts F.R.C.S. of

Roberts F.E.C.S. of
Woodgrees, Woodcross
Narberth, Beloved
husband of Sarah and
adoring fether of Tom,
William and Edward,
Funeral Service 12.30pm,
Thursday January 18th, at
St. John's Church,
Tampleston, Nurberth,
Pambrokeshire, Iollowed
by interment in the
Churchyard, Family
flowers only. Donations if
desired to issuech a fund to
help locally abused
whidren c/o Mr G.E.
Phillips, Bryn-y-Fram, 28
Crow Hill, Haverfortwest,
Pembrokeshire, SA81 Crow Hill, Raverfordwest, Pumbrokeshira, SAS1 2HL, to whom cheques should be made payable. Enguiries to W& M.J. Rossiter & Sons, Puneral Director, The Old Ractory, The Norton, Teaby, Pumbrokeshira, 7et 01834 843163.

S43100.

SOMERVALLE MCALESTER—
On January 5th 1999, Joan Derothy Jude Penny), aged 32 years. Widow of Angus, beloved mother of Ian and Mary and grandmosther of Rosy, Craig, Jamos and Kinsty, Funeral Service West Wilshire Carnasterium, Semington on Thursday 14th January, 1999 at 11.30am, Family flowers only, Donations for R.N.L.I. may be sent c/o F.Dowey Ltd. 26, River Street, Pewasy, Wilts SN9 SOH.

STARBURY—Freda beloved

STANBURY - Freds beloved STANGURY - Freda beloved wile of Philip, adored wile of Philip, adored mother of Mariene, Penny, and Anthony and much loved mother-in-haw, grandmother, and great-grandmother, passed away peacefully at the King Edward VII Hospital London on Thursday January 6th. The Juneral has already taken place. TRADE: 0171 481 1982 SERVICES:

STEWART - Margaret, on 7th
Istmary 1999 after a shortillness. Beloved wife of the
lete Major Richard (Dick)
Stewart, The Berder
Regiment and Senior
Assistant Secretary of the
Law Society, Much loved
mother of James, Peter and
the lete High. A devoted
grandmother and greatgrandmother, Paneral,
Friday 15th Jamesry in
Harrogata Flowers
welcome, Enquiries to
Swalmsons, 01423 504571.
TARRAST - Evelyn after

ARRANT - Evelya aft years of suffering as Once on the staff of

TARRANT - Evelya after
years of suffering aged 96.
Once on the staff of
Cheltenham Ladies
College and 55 Pauls Girls
School, London, Funeral
service on Thursdey List
Jamasy at 85. Mangarats
Church, Buxted at 2.30
pm. Flowers and enquiries
to Cooper & Son, 11 New
Town, Uckfield tel: 01825
763763.
TORRANCE - Bob,
Physiologist and Emeritus
Fellow of St John's
College, Oxford, died
peacefully in hospital 8th.
Jamusry 1999, Lowed by his
wife Mangaret and sons
Mark and Faul. Funeral at
Wolveroote Cametery,
Oxford on Friday 15th
Jamusry at 11.00 zm. No
flowers please, but
donations if desired to
Barnardo's, Tamare Lane,
Barkingside, Ilford, Essex
ICS 10G.
TRAE. - Beell A. J Trail

IGS IQC.
TRAIL - Benil A I Trail
peccefully on 9th January
aged 75 years.
VAUGHAN-EVANS - Dan on
2nd January 1999
peacefully at Liandudno
Hospital in his 88th year.
At his request no funeral
service. Liquitries to
Howell Jones and Co.
Solicitors 01492 640277.
WXLIAMESON - The Primeral

Solicitors 01492 640277.

WELLAMSON - The Funeral of Ruth, who was killed in Yemen, will take place at Warriston Crematorium, Lorimer Chapel,
Edinburgh on Friday 15th January 1989, at 2.00pm.
All friends, relatives and colleagues are invited to attend. Further information from William Purves Funeral Directors (Tel: 0131 447 5858).

WESON - Sir Reginald The (101: 0131 447 5858).
WRSON - Sir Reginald. The Funeral Sarvice praviously amounted for 11.30am on Saturday Jamuary 18th at Goldens Green.
Cramsturium.

Golders Gross
Crematorium, will now
take place at St. Columbas
Church of Scotland, Pout
Street SW7, at 11.00am on
Wednesday 20th January
Jollowed by a private
uremation at Mortlake
Crematorium

Crematorium.

YU- Dr. Merk Meng Lum

passed away pescelally on

th January 1999 will be
sadly missed by his wife
May Ying, some.

Dominique and Siao Hong,
grandchildren Naheme
and Sanjay and loving
family as by his friends,
students and patients.

Service 13th January
200pm at Manor Park
Chepel 50 White Read
London E12-SDA.

shire, and Mrs Eva Atkinson, of Chicago, Illinois, and Jennifer, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Handler, of Romiley, Cheshire.

The engagement is announced

Hassall, of Bromsgrove, Worcester-

Mr H.H.W. Keegan

Mr J.C. Hassall

and Miss J.A. Handler

The engagement is announced between Marc, son of Mr and Mrs and Dr S.J. Hickman The engagement is announced between Harry, elder son of Mr William Keegan and Mrs Tessa. Keegan, both of Islington, London, and Sarah, eldest daughter of Dr. and Mrs Roger Hickman, of Bredgar, Kent.

> Mr N.H.A. MacGregor and Miss F.M.N. Graham

The engagement is announced between Niman, younger son of Brigadier Sir Gregor and Lady MacGregor of MacGregor, of Bannatyne, Newtyle, Angus, and Fiona daughter of Mr and Mrs David Graham, of Chute, Wilt-

Mr W.K.G. Mouroe and Miss J.W. Effet

The engagement is announced between Bill, elder son of the laze Monroe, of Llanychan. Denbighshire and Jane, daughter of the late Mr G.P. Elliot and of Mrs Eileen Elliot, of Virginia Water,

The engagement is announced between Eric, son of the late Mr Michael Gleason and of Mrs Sheridan Heideman, of Ocean-side, California, and Pippa, only Mr R I Smethurst and Miss J.A. Perguson

The engagement is atmounced between Richard, only son of Mr and Mrs John Smethurst, of Spital, Wirral, and Jeannie, daughter of Dr and Mrs Roger Ferguson, of Oxton, Wirral.

Marriage Mr J.A. Baldwin and Miss H. Roberts The marriage took place on January II, at Blakes Hotel, London, SW7, between Mr Jeremy Ashley Baldwin, of Liznedeyrn, Cardiff, and Miss Helen Roberts, of Lian-

Anniversaries today DEATHS: Luca Giordano, painter, Naples, 1705; Sir Isaac Pitman, inventor of a short-

hand system, Bath, 1897; Dame Agatha Christie, crime novelist, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, 1976.

A Boeing 747 jet landed at Heathrow, airport after its molden traffsatiantic flight

TICKETS FOR SALE

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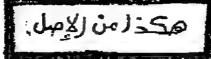
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MORNING SUITS

- Sand Jenson



OBITUARIES

COLONEL ANTHONY SIMONDS

Colonel Anthony Simonds, OBE, M19 officer, died on January 7 aged 89. He was born on November 21, 1909.

nthony Simonds, who served under Orde Wingate in Palestine and Ethiopia, later did his best to repair one of the stupidest British blunders of the Second World War and organised the rescue of hundreds of prisoners of war in Italy. He was mentioned seven times in dispatches and Wingate put him up for a DSO for what he did in Ethiopia. But Wingate had enemies in GHQ Cairo, and Simonds was not the only member of his team not to get the recognition he deserved.

By the summer of 1943, when Mussolini was deposed, Simonds was a lieutenant-colonel in com-mand of the Balkans and Middle East section of MI9, the secret escape and evasion service. Behind barbed wire in various Italian camps were almost 80,000 Allied prisoners, the majority British and Commonwealth soldiers captured by Axis forces in North Africa. When Marshal Badoglio formally surrendered on September 8, five days after the British had landed in the toe of Italy, their guards simply

walked away. This should have been the cue for hundreds of escape parties to make their way towards the Allied lines. Instead, in most of the camps the senior British officers ordered the PoWs to stay put and await rescue. They did this because they had been told to do so by MI9's headquarters in London in coded messages picked up on the camps'

and former intelligence officer M. R. D. Foot has suggested that M19 was doing the bidding of the tidy-minded Montgomery, who did not want his battlefield cluttered up

with ragged bands of escapers.

A few thousand insubordinate souls guessed that the Germans were likely to get to them much faster than the Allies and boited. Some dithered and still got away. Among the luckier ones was a Captain Balfour of the Scots Guards, an officer privy to the secret MI9 order, who at the last moment hid on a rafter while the

Wehrmacht emptied the rest of his camp into trains for Germany.

Balfour got to the little Adriatic port of Termoli, the Eighth Army's most forward position, where Sim-onds had set up the vanguard of his prisoner rescue operation. For the first time Simonds heard about the astonishing MI9 order from Lon-don and realised he would have to act quickly before the Germans rounded all the prisoners up. Under his command, he had

what must have been one of the most heterogeneous units the Allies ever put into the field. There were three Italian Navy motor launches whose crews had only recently been exchanging shots with the Royal Navy, 13 Italian fishing boats with mixed RN and Italian crews, two squadrons of SAS, one of them Free French, a company of British paratroopers and a contingent of first generation Italian-Americans on loan from the Office of Strategic Services, the forerunner of the CIA.

His officers included an amateur jockey who had won the Grand National, a London stockbroker, a

clandestine radios. The historian newspaper illustrator, a Twining tea taster, a French Communist who had fought Franco, the former Polish Ambassador to Rome, the Prince of Calabria, the son of the Governor-General of the Sudan, a couple of Etonians and a jazz-loving Harvard professor. Simonds's tactics were snople.

Teams of parachutists were dropped near the known sites of PoW camps. They shepherded escapers to the coast. In case they missed the rendezvous or were chased away by German patrols, the SAS parties taught the escapers recognition signals to make out to sea. Night after night Simonds would

crawl along the coast in one of his vessels, searching for waifs and strays. Sometimes boats were hired into traps and blown to pieces. One night Simonds spotted some lights that were too faint and irregular to make out whether they were the right signal. His vessel went as close inshore as it dared and lowered Simonds and three others in a small boat. On the beach were a bunch of men who shouted they were British. "Identify yourselves by whistling The British Grenadiers," demanded Simonds, A faint but recognisable rendering came back. It turned out to be an exhausted party of 15 escapers who for the second successive night were making their feeble signals with a candle.

Sometimes Simonds ventured further inland. Once he helped capture a German officer who had been persuaded by one of his Italian-Americans that they were black marketeers with whisky. "Not a correct M19 operation," Sumonds noted in in his unpub-



وركة رامن رائيمها

Simonds in Ethiopia in 1941 as part of Wingate's Gideon Force

lished memoirs, "but great funt" Anthony Charles Simonds, the son of an officer killed on the Somme, came from an old and wealthy Berkshire family with interests in banking and brewing. He was educated at Wellington College and in 1931 was commis-sioned into the Royal Berkshire During the Arab uprising in

Regiment. He was much admired for his boxing skills and reached the army championships four

times at featherweight.
His other talents were perhaps more in keeping with his passion for chess, for he soon showed an

Palestine in the late 1930s he worked at GHQ Jerusalem and sometimes fed tip-offs to Wingate's Special Night Squads which resulted in deadly ambushes. Complaints from senior officers' wives that young Captain Simonds kept a permanent female companion in his burgalow were dismissed by his immediate superiors on the ground that this "moral turpitude"

might be essential to his duties. In November 1940 he was at Wavell's headquarters in Cairo when Wingate asked him if he would parachute into Italian-occupied Ethiopia, where the British were giving Haile Selassie's guerrillas the little military assistance they could then spare. Simonds, who never made any secret of his fear of parachuting, said he would rather walk, and trekked most of the way from the Sudanese

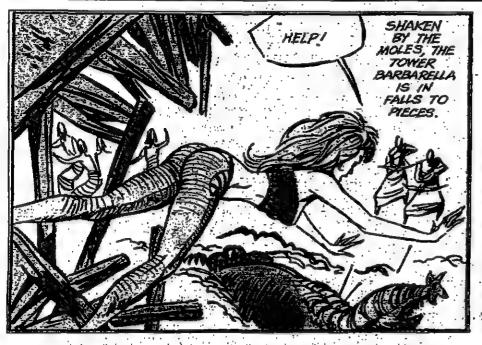
border to the source of the Blue Nile. For the next six months, with shoulder length-hair and a beard down to his chest, Simonds led a barefoot column of Ethiopians. As part of Wingate's Gideon Force he helped to tie down thousands of Italian troops while conventional British forces attacked from Sudan and Kenya. Woefully equipped by indifferent staff offices in Khartourn, he improvised brilliantly. He convinced the enemy that cigarette tins were landmines, organised the repair of an old muzzle-loading cannon to fire round shot, and turned back an Italian surprise attack by using a flare pistol to transform some dry scrub into a wall of fire. When, towards the end of the campaign, he was ordered, protesting, back to Cairo, the paymaster's department insisted that he was not entitled to field service allowance, since he had not been in the field at all but merely

"behind enemy lines".

From September 1941 until the end of the war he was in charge of all escape and rescue operations in the Balkans. Although Turkey was officially neutral he ran a fleet of turned calques into the Aegean islands from a port near lamir. Shortly before the German surrender he was almost killed while flying to Turkey from Cyprus when German fighter from occupied Rhodes attacked the unarmed RAF transport he was in. To shake off the fighter the pilot, who like all the aircrew had an oxygen mask, took his unpressurised plane as high as he could. Simonds passed out. In 1952 he left the Army and

became a flower-grower in Cyprus where, in 1943, he had married his first wife, Eirwen Llewelyn Jones, with whom he had two daughters before they were divorced in 1969. Simonds remained on the island throughout the 1955-59 Eoka rebellion. But when the Turks invaded Cyprus in 1974 his home in Kyrenia was destroyed. Evacuated by the Royal Navy, he later returned to the island and, with his second wife, Barbara Ayre, set up home in the village of Ayia Anna. In aid of Anglican church funds he ran a secondhand bookshop in the grounds of St Paul's in Nicosia and was often to be seen sitting outside it wearing a Panama hat and a Special Forces Club tie. In 1997. suffering from the onset of Alzheim-er's disease, he moved back to Britain.

He is survived by his second wife Barbara and the two daughters



JEAN-CLAUDE FOREST

Jean-Claude Forest, French cartoonist, died on December 30 aged 68. He was born on September 30, 1930.

THOUGH he created many cartoon characters, Jean-Claude Forest is best known for Barbarella, his sex-mad Shoies' spacegirl. In Forest's farrage of amiable nonsense, the semblance of scientific exactitude which had been the feature of previous space strips went out of the window. Not for Barbarella the observation of those conventional laws which had characterised America's Buck Rogers and Britain's Dan Dare — a knowledge of different gravity fields, a wary care for hostile atmospheres and a need to-

Mandatation (Treatment of The High Court of The

ins mitigates shown belows the sections in mitigates shown below the section company which showed by completed and presumed as me by the date of the meetings if your cambrid attend the meetings if you cambrid attend the meetings ind wish to be supremented. In order to be eastfall give to me, not hove then 12,00 pm on the beginness day before the day that it is not the positions of your claims. Resolutions will be when it the writing of your claims. Resolutions will be when it the meeting the december of memorins which my folest inflaministrative and I are no be reconsented. A copy of The Cockiner Golds To Applications for how they Statemand I was be not been standard to the control of the cockiner Codds To Applications for how they standard the mediant when they standard the second I are no be recombined by the Fredrich standard of Danstonery Practice 9, so instead by the Society of Practice, and the second of th

PUBLIC NOTICES

cope with strange space lan-guages. Capering around the universe without space helmet or suit, chattering away to all and sundry in galactic Esperanto and wearing little more than the skin she was born in, she seemed quite immune to

such apprehensions.

Like one of the apsaras of Hindu mythology, those divine nymphs who roam the floors of heaven, coupling at will with the embodied souls of the righteous, Barbarella, too, seemed to regard it as her mission to bestow herself generously upon any man (or, for that matter, robot) in whom she found signs of virtue.
True, there was more than a

hint of S&M in Forest's creation (which was magnified in Roger Vadim's film version). one scene a revolting machine threatens the heroine with death by orgasm. And in another, hostile steel-jawed dolls sink their teeth into her fair flesh, causing the blood to flow over her scanty lingerie. But unlike that other accidentprone strip cartoon character Modesty Blaise, Barbarella never had to exert any ingenuity to get out of a scrape. A hop, a skip, a sigh or a flash of her irresistible assets to dazzle and confuse the enemy, and she was out of one tight corner — generally soon to find herself

in another.

Jean-Claude Forest had his artistic training at the Ecole des Arts et des Métiers, Paris. While still a student, he worked on his first cartoon strip, a visual adaptation of R. L. Stevenson's Wars of the Roses novel, The Black Arrow.

In his early twenties he worked on Vaillant, a weekly comic for boys, producing several fantasy strips and so making himself a reputation. By 1959, he was drawing a comic strip for France-Soir. But it was Barbarella, first created in 1962 for the magazine V, that made his reputation. The strip, with its soft porn heroine - whose motto in life seemed to be "If it moves, proposition it" - be-came hugely popular among adolescents and young men,

who liked her propensity for shedding what little clothing she wore whenever she exerted herself. In 1964 a series of the strips was published as a book and a few years later there was an English lan-guage version.

But although, in general, France prided itself on having shown the Anglo-Saxon world how to get sex into space with style, the authorities had a sudden réflexion bourgeoise about their country being once again styled the publishing centre pornographique. There was a futile attempt to ban the book, but the genie was too far

out of the bottle. The enfant terrible of "starkers" cinema, Roger Vadim, who had made his reputation by putting on the screen the undraped splendours of his wife Brigitte Bardot in his first film, Et... Dieu créa la Femme (1956), now had Barbarella in his sights. Already divorced from Bardot (and, after her, Annette Stroyberg), he was now on his third wife, Jane Fonda, who fjust as Bardot would have been - El...Dieu was pretty much a Barbarella of the beaches) was a perfect

vehicle for the Forest idea. With her naturally agreeable comours little disguised by clothing, the third Mme Vadim was soon capering around the set of Barbarella. molested (and as frequently doing the molesting herself) by a host of monsters, misfits machines and the occasional angel. The results of these absurd antics, lovingly photographed by Claude Renoir. went on general release in 1968.

Fonda, a product of the Actors' Studio in New York. was really far too intelligent for the Vadim sex goddess treatment, and she later moved on to better things (and two other marriages). But for the moment her unimpeachable physical credentials car-ried her through. The result, a sex fantasy firmly rooted in its era, is nevertheless still watchable. Its success owed a good deal to Forest himself, who supervised the set design for Vadim, and made some of his more outlandish cartoon notions work on screen.

Having soared to success on a wave of girlie sex. Forest stuck with the genre. He became editor of a new adult magazine Chouchou, for which he created the strip Baby Cyanide, and created another nubile female protagonist for French television. But he was never again to achieve the eclat of Barbarella. He is survived by his wife Petra, and by a son.

PROFESSOR TAD **RYBCZYNSKI**

Professor Tadeus Rybezynski, economist, died on December 18 aged 75. He was born on May 21, 1923.

TAD RYBCZYNSKI made lasting contributions both to economic theory and to an understanding of financial in-stitutions and markets, and was also a selflessly active member of an astonishing number of professional bodies, at least one of which he founded. His achievements are yet another example of the contribution made by immigrants to Brit-ain's professional life. Tadeus Micczysław Rybo-

zynski was born in Lvov in the

Úkraine. He came to Britain in 1942 via the Soviet Union and the Middle East and enlisted in the RAF, becoming a bomber pilot. In 1949 be joined Lloyds Bank, while also studying at the London School of Economics as an external student, obtaining first a BCom and then, in 1952, an MSc degree. Out of the latter came a seminal article on the theory of international trade. known ever since as the Rybczynski theorem, which analysed the effects of a shift in the distribution of economic resources.

in 1954 he joined Lazard Brothers, then one of the few merchant banks to employ economists, and before long he was head of its economic research department. In 1969 he was made a director of Lazard Securities, the fund management arm of the bank. After retiring from this in 1986 he retained a role as economic adviser to Lazard Brothers for a further two years. it is almost impossible to

think of a professional body in the field of applied economics in Britain in which Rybczyn-ski did not play an influential role, even while he was still with Lazards. He was chairman of the Society of Business Economists between 1963 and 1975, and in 1968 was elected to the council of the National Institute of Economic and Social Research and to that of the Institute of Fiscal Studies, for both of which his investment judgment proved particu-larly fruitful.

He served on the Monopolies and Mergers Commission between 1978 and 1981. In the early 1970s he founded the City

Monetary Group, which still meets regularly to discuss monetary and other economic questions. At various times he also served on the council or governing body of the British Association for the Advance-ment of Science, the Royal Economic Society, the Trade Policy Research Centre and the Economic Research Council.

His international outlook was evidenced in his membership of the committee of the Foreign Affairs Club and of the science committee of the Cen-tre for Monetary and Banking Studies at the University of Geneva. In 1980 he received the Abramson Award of the National Association of Business Economists in the United States, and in 1983 he was the recipient of the Harms Award from the University of Kiel.



His university activities were notable. He served on the court of Brunel University between 1976 and 1979 and was a visiting professor at the University of Surrey between 1968 and 1974. He then became a visiting professor at the City University, where he was also awarded an honorary DSc in 1990. His writings were numerous, spanning monetary and banking problems, international finance and taxation.

His unbounded energy was not, as is often the case, accompanied by any desire to dominate or by any hint of vanity. He was a modest and gentle persuader whose scepticism about dogma never degenerated into mere cynicism. He was always ready to encourage the young and inspired affection as well as

respect.
Tad Rybczynski leaves his widow Helena, whom he married in 1951, and a daughter.

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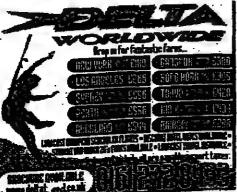
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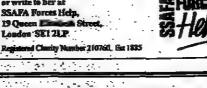
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To hen CS-602d Jacksh

FAITH IN ALLIED CAUSE

... At the beginning of 1940 de Lattre assumed command of the 14th Division. This formation fought with great determination at Rethel, and he kept it well in hand in the subsequent retreat and rearguard actions. A brief period of service in France under the Vicby regime followed; but the atmosphere was little to his liking and he was happy to be appointed to the command of the forces in Tunisia in 1941. From this post he was, however, recalled in January of the following year, on the basis of well-founded suspicion of sympathy for the Allied cause, and given the com-mand of a division at Montpellier.

When the Allies landed in North Africa in November of that year he foresaw that the Germans would enter unoccupied France. In the hope that an Allied landing in southern France would follow he strove to establish a bridgehead near Cette but his handful of men was overrun and he was

ON THIS DAY

January 12, 1952

The obituary of General de Lattre de Tassigny paid tribute to the way this distinguished soldier and statesman's faith in the Allied cause did much to restore pride to the French army.

condemned to ten years' imprisonment. On September 3, 1943, de Lattre broke out of his fourth prison, that of Riom, with the aid of his wife and son. In the early hours of October 18 an aircraft of the RAF picked him up near Macon and carried him to England. Reaching Algiers in late December, he received from General Giraud command of the face of considerable political as well as capitulation in Berlin ...

military obstacles. His first operation was the liberation of Elba. On August 15 he landed on the French Riviera, and the capture of Toulon and Marseilles was

swiftly carried out. After a rapid pursuit of the retreating Germans up the valleys of the Rhône and Saône during the first half of September, Army B established touch with the "Overlord" armies on the plateau of Langres and from approximately this time became known as the mately this time became known as the First French Army. Its next great feat was the breaching of the "Gap of Belfort" in mid-November snowstorms.

After the German Ardennes offensive the First French Army, reinforced by the United States XXI Corps, cleared the "Colmar Pocket", captured 20,000 prisoners and almost annihilated the 19th German Army. In March it broke through the Siegfried Line and crossed the Rhine north of Karlsruhe. Then came its sweep to the Danube and thrusts southward into Tirol, a magnifi-Second Army, later Army B, which he cent revenge. On May 8 de Lattre signed had to organize from the bottom up, in on behalf of France the Reich's act of Companhia Europeia de

Transportes Aeros SA ▼ Brit-

ish Aerospace pic and Anoth-

Sefore Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Judge and Lord Justice Tuckey

The court would not make an or-

der that would have the effect of al-lowing a third party to intervene in

a dead action so as to make himself

a party in order to resuscitate a dead claim and avoid a limitation

The Court of Appeal so held dis-

missing an appeal by the plaintiff company, Companhia Europeia de Transportes Aeros SA (Euroair),

from the refusal by Mr Justice Longmore to extend time to allow

its writ claiming damages for, in-

ter alia, alleged breach of contract against the defendants, British Aer-

ospace pic and CIBC Finance pic, to be amended so as to add a third

party. Dr Lopes, as a plaintiff in

Mr Peter Goldsmith, OC and

Mr Andrew Lydiard for Dr Lopes; Mr Mark Howard, QC and Mr David Garland for British Aero-

space; CIBC Finance did not ap-

Burns v Shuttlehurst Lid and

Before Lord Justice Stuart- Smith.

Lord Justice Thorpe and Lord Jus-

A claim for an indemnity under a contract of insurance, of which the

plaintiff in a personal injury action

was the statutory assignee, was not "a claim for damages for personal injuries" or "in respect of personal

court to make an order for pre-ac-

tion discovery against the insurers under section 33/2) of the Supreme

The Court of Appeal so held in a

reserved judgment, allowing an ap-peal by General Accident Fire and Life Assurance Corporation pic

from the order of Mr Justice Steel on April 24, 1998, in which he al-lowed an appeal by the plaintiff, Thomas Stephen Burns, against

District Judge Cole's refusal of his

application for, inter alia, pre-ac-

tion discovery against General Ac-

employers, Shuttlehurst Ltd., for

The plaintiff sped, inter alia, his

uries" so as to empower the

Others

tice Mummery

Court Act 1981.

[fudgment December 21]

pear and were not represented.

Judgment December 21

fore at the time when the judge heard his application was that he

was asking for an extension of time

or an order for substitution to join

himself into an action which stood

dismissed and had no prospect of

Mr Justice Longmore held that Dr Lopes "was in insuperable diffi-culties if he was unable to procure

[Euroair] to provide at this late

hour security for costs. He had not

been able to so procure and it was

therefore unthinkable that the

court would exercise its jurisdic-

tion to regulate the consequences of dismissal".

passage he recognised that he had a residual discretion to revive the

action if security was provided, but

as it was not going to be he would not allow Dr Lopes to join the ac-

tion. Whether strictly that was a

The indge obviously made the right decision. Otherwise the effect of allowing Dr Lopes to join the action would enable him to get round.

the unless order altogether to pur-

sue a claim in the right of the de-

. Lord Justice Nourse and Lord

Solicitors: Howard Kennedy:

mer of jurisdiction or discretion

The judge was correct. In that

being revived.

did not matter.

faulting party.

Justice Judge agreed.

Court must end tenancy

Manchester City Council v Cochrane and Another Before Lord Justice Auld. Lord Justice Judge and Sir John Knox [Judgment December 21]

An introductory tenancy granted by a local authority under Part V of the Housing Act 1996 for one year without security of tenure entitled the council to apply for a posses-sion order if the tenants or their visitors caused a nuisance.

The county court was obliged to make an order for possession 90 long as the council complied with the statutory procedure in sections 127 and 128 of the Act.

The only challenge open to the tenant if an internal review upheld the council's decision, was an application to the High Court for judicial review of the decision, for which purpose the county court had power to grant an adjournings, but not a stay.

In contrast to Part VII of the Act which empowered the county court to exercise a judicial review jurisdiction in relation to homelessness cases, the county court had no similar jurisdiction to hear appeals by introductory tenants on points of

The Court of Appeal so held, allowing the appeal of Manchester City Council against the dismissa County Court of the council's appeal against the decision of District Judge Griffiths that the county court had jurisdiction to entertain defences by the introductory ten-ants, Mr Joseph Cochrane and Mrs Annette Cochrane, to the coun-Section 127 of the 1996 Act pro-

"(1) The landlord may only bring

an introductory tenancy to an end by obtaining an order of the court for the possession of the dwelling-

"(2) The court shall make such an order unless the provisions of

"(i) The court shall not entertain ings for the possession of a dwelling house let under an introductory tenancy unless the landlord has served on the tenant a no-

SIR JOHN KNOX said that the tent of the county court's jurisdic-tion in dealing with possession ac-tions in relation to introductory ten-

That part contained novel provielect to operate an introductory ten-ancy scheme whereby new tenants would have a probationary one-year period before becoming se-

anted Mr and Mrs Cochrane a joint weekly tenancy of a property in Burnage, Manchester, The tenancy was expressed to be an introwhen Mr and Mrs Cochrane were

ment stated, inter alia: "The council can take possession of your home _ Because of your own action or the action of someone living with you or visiting you: You, or they, must have broken a rule in this tenancy agreement or

Clause 4 set out the tenant's re-

section L28 apply,
Section L28 provides:

tice of proceedings complying with

Mr Andrew Arden, QC and Mr Jonathan Manning for the council; Mr Peter Buckley for the tenants.

appeal raised the question of the exancies under Part V of the 1996 Act.

sions for housing authorities to cure tenants. Manchester City Council made such an election. On April 15, 1997 the council

Clause 1.9 of the tenancy agree-

When time runs

Roberts v Whibow

Time started to run for limitation purposes from the date when the aintiff knew that a lesser part of her injuries was attributable to the defendant and not when she later discovered that the greater part was also so attributable

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Roch and Mrs Justice Hale) so stated on December 4 on an appeal by the defendant. Dr Adrian John Winbow, against the decision of Judge Brandt on February 21, 1998 at Colchester County Court that the claim of the plaintiff, Linda Anne Roberts, for medical negligence had commenced outside the imitation period. The court exercised its discretion to disapply sec-tion II(4) of the Limitation Act 1980 and allowed the action to proceed

LORD JUSTICE ROCH said that the case raised a new question in a medical negligence case. If a plaintiff suffered injuries

some of which she knew to be atmbutable to the act or omission of the defendant which was alleged to constitute negligence, but the main part of which was not to the plain-tiff's knowledge attributable in whole or in part to the act or omis-sion of the defendant which was alleged to constitute negligence, did the three-year period commence when the plaintiff had knowledge that the lesser part of the injury was attributable, or did the period start only when the plaintiff had knowledge that the greater part of

the injury was attributable? His Lordship accepted that the from the earlier of those two dates.

sponsibilities, including requirements not to cause a muisance, anpoyance or disturbance to any othperson and not to inflict or eaten domestic violence.

The council served a notice dated March 9, 1998 to terminate the introductory tenancy, alleging breaches of the tenancy agreement. All the requirements in section 128(1) to (7) were complied with and the validity of the notice was not challenged.

The tenants requested a review. In April 1, 1998 an oral review was held. The tenants claimed that it was not conducted in accordance with the Introductory Tenants (Review) Regulations (SI 1997 No 72). There had been no investigation of the truth of those allegations.

After the oral review the council confirmed their decision to termi-nate the tenancy and issued proceedings for possession of the prop-

erty on April 9, 1998.

Before District Judge Griffiths on June 9, 1998 an objection was made by the council to the furisdiction of the county court to hear the defence the tenants wished to ad-vance. The district judge, taking the view that the court had jurisdic-

tion, gave directions.

A defence was filed denying the breaches of the tenants' agreement and alleging failures to comply with the regulations and a denial of natural justice in the conduct of the review. An appeal was dis-missed by Judge Howarth on June 18, from which the present appeal

In his Lordship's view the ap-peal should be allowed for three

First, the private law right of the tenants under an introductory ten-ancy was no more than a right to possession until an order for pos-session in layour of the landlord ade by the court, and such order had to be made once the requirements of section 128 regardng the notice of proceedings had been complied with.

Parliament, by enacting section 127(2) in mandatory terms clearly imposed a statutory limitation on the right of an introductory tenant

indeed there was a remarkable constriction of the court's powers that, on the one hand, under section 128(1) the court was prohibited from even entertaining possession proceedings unless the various re-quirements of section 128 were satsfied, while on the other hand, if the remarkements of section 128 were satisfied, the court was positively required to make a possession order under section 127(2).

There was no escape from that analysis. The court had no discretion in the matter at all. The council's duty to comply with section 129(2) in conducting a review was subject to judicial review. The county court had to have at least jurisdiction to grant an ad-journment if satisfied that there was a real chance of leave to apply for judicial review being granted. That was the view of Lord Donaldson. Master of the Rolls, in Avon County Council v Buscott [1988]

OB 6561 It would be a clear contravention of the mandatory terms of section 127(2) for the county court to en-tertain a defence based on a denial of allegations of breaches of a tenancy agreement relied on in the no-tice under section 128.

Similarly it would not be proper for a county court to grant a stay of possession proceedings on the ap-plication of a tenant alleging fail-ure by the landlord to observe the ules of natural justice.

The general prohibition in sec-tion 38(3) of the County Court Act 1984 operated as a ban on any county court reviewing the failure to ex-ercise a public duty unless there was parliamentary authority for it

That conclusion was supported by the second reason, which was the contract between section 204/31 of the 1996 Act conferring jurisdic tion upon the county court to de-cide any point of law in relation to housing authority reviews under sertion 202(1) regarding homelessness on the one hand, and section 138(1) read with section 127(2) which conferred a very truch nar-rower jurisdiction relating to re-views of decisions to take proceed-ings to evict introductory tenants

The third reason was procedural. If the county court had jurisdic-tion to entertain a defence based on the invalidity of the housing au-thority's review, the result would probably be that the tenant would become a secure tenant. Clearly that was not a desirable result, nor

one which Parliament intended. No such result would follow if the county court only granted an adjournment of the possession pro-ceedings to enable judicial review proceedings to be taken by the ten-

His Lordship considered it re-grettable that Parliament should have given only such minimal powers to the county court by accion 138(1) of the Act. That sat ill with Part VII which conferred upon the county court powers wide enough to include public law defences in connection with proceedings under the Housing Acts. As the Act stood, since the validity of the notice under section 128 was not challenged the tenants' defence should be

Lord Justice Judge delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Jus-tice Auld agreed. Solicitors: Ms Susan Orrell,

Co. Manchester.

damages for personal injuries and obtained indement with damages to be assessed. By then the employers were in liquidation and there

to provide the security ordered. Within the same time Eurosir had to amend the writ to add Dr Lopes as plaintiff; see Order 20, rule 9 of the Rules of the Supreme Court. Neither of those thing han

tor of Eurosin, a Portuguese compa-ny in liquidation. Before the liqui-

dation Dr Lopes held over 60 per

cent of the company's shares. The action arose out of the acquisition

of three aircraft manufactured by

The proceedings were started in

in 1993 just after Eurosir went into

liquidation. From 1994 the parties

were locked in barrie over security

An order made in January 1996

for security against Euroair was not complied with. In April Dr

Lopes look an assignment of all Eu-roalir claims against the defend-ants and Euroair applied to amend

the writ to add Dr Lopes as a plain-

However, in May 1996 an unless

order was made against them that they provide security within 14

Dr Lones to icin the action to pur-

sue Euroair's contractual claims re-

Euroan's appeal against those orders was dismissed and they were given until November 4, 1997

British Aerospace

LORD JUSTICE TUCKEY said

No pre-action discovery against insurers were no assets to meet the claim. The employers' insurers, General

> Mr Robert Maxon-Browne, QC and Mr Charles Dougherty for General Accident, Mr John Foy, QC and Mr Simon Carr for the

the 1981 Act which provided:

"(2) On the application in accord-

Accident refused to indemnify

Third party cannot revive claim

missed for failure to comply with

That application prompted Dr

Lopes to apply for an order for leave to extend time for the amend-

ment to the writ, alternatively for

an order substituting himself as plaintiff and giving him leave to

continue the action under Order 15.

It was those applications that

had come before Mr.Justice Long.

more who held that it was too late

for Dr Lopes to be added as plain-

tiff since the action stood dismissed

on November 4 because of Eu-

roair's non-compliance with the un-

less order. Unless it could be re-

vived there was no action to which

The judge recognised that the court did have jurisdiction to re-

vive the action but said that it would be umbinkable to exercise it

in the present case unless Euroan

were now to provide the security

which had been ordered and which they were obviously not go-

When Euroair failed to provide

security on November 4 the action stood dismissed. They had the

right to try to revive it by seeking an extension of time to provide se-

an entension of time to provide se-curity but had chosen not to do so. So the action was to remain dis-

missed with no prospect of it being revived. Dr Lopes's position there-

Dr Lopes could be joined.

the unless order.

rule 7.

LORD JUSTICE STUART-SMITH said that the court's jurisdiction to make an order for pre-so tion discovery was in section 33 of

ance with rules of the court, of a person who appears to the High Court to be likely to be a party to subsequent proceedings in that court in which a claim in respect of personal injuries to a person, or in respect of a person's death, is likely to be made, the High Court shall in such circumstances as may be specified in the rules, have power. to order a person who appears to the court to be likely to be a party to the proceedings and to be likely o have _ in his possession, custo dy or power any documents which are relevant to an issue arising or to disclose whether those docu-ments are in his possession, custody or power; and (b) to produce ...

The relevant rule was Order 24, rule 7A of the Rules of the Supreme. Court. By rule 7A(7) "a claim for personal injuries" meant "a claim

in respect of personal injuries to a person or in respect of a person's death. The proposed claim against Gen-

eral Accident was based on the Third Parties (Rights Against In-surers) Act 1930: The term "claim for personal in-juries" was shorthard for "claim for damages for personal injuries".

As a matter of construction, there-fore, a claim to be indemnified by the insurers under the 1930 Act was not a claim for damages in re-

was not a caum for trainages in respect of personal injuries.

His Lordship said the name meaning ought to be given to the expression "claim in respect of personal injuries to a person" in section 33(2) of the 1931 Act as was given to "damages" elaimed, by the en to damages claimed by the plaintiff ... consist of or include damages in respect of personal in-juries, in section 11 of the Limitation Act 1980. That was because in each case it was a claim for damages in respect of personal injuries.

A claim for an indemnity under
a contract of insurance, of which the plaintiff was the statutory as-

signee, was not a claim for damag-

of personal injury, even though the quantum of the indemnity claimed was calculated by reference to the personal injuries. Nor, until the plaintiff's claim

had been quantified, could it be said that a claim against General Accident was likely. It was quite clear that if and when the claim was quantified, the documents would be discoverable: see section 2 of the 1930 Act.

Accordingly, the application for pre-action discovery failed. Lord Justice Thorpe and Lord Justice Mummery agreed. Solicitors: Wansboughs Willey

Corrections

Hargrave: Thomnsons, Birming

In Pro Sieben Media AG v Carlton UK Television Ltd (The Times January 7) the solicitors for Pro Sieben were Denton Hall.

in McDonald v FIFA (The Times January 7) the judge was Mr Robin McEwan, QC.

In R v Hereford Magistrates Court. Ex parts MacRas (The Times December 15) junior counsel for Ms MacRae was Mr Stephen



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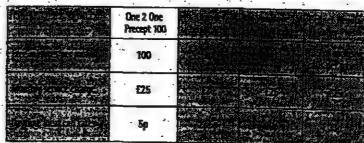
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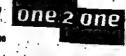


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Dock becom

based Lloyds TSB business

banking manager, says re-search is all-important: "It

may be a brilliant product,

but if there is no market, there's no point. Women tend

to be confident and do a lot of

research. They come well pre-

pared, and are quite happy to

Studies by Lloyds TSB sug-

gest that women are often fi

nancially shrewder than men.

and tend to be more structured and long-term in their approach. However, stamina

is called for. Ms Saldanha

says: "The first thing is to

treat the business as some-

ble television companies from

full-time employee before set-

thought, if I don't do it now, I

never will, but I wish I'd done

it 20 years ago, when I had more energy. I love what I do,

but it's very hard work in as

much as I work some evenings

until two o'clock in the morn-

ing. I've worked all night; i

work weekends. It's home,

and you can never get away

from it. The phone might ring

at 10pm. I don't regret it at all

say: I've done it."

because I can look back and

Mary Bonner, who set up

her own catering company 11 years ago, says: "I'd say: do it,

but it isn't easy. I've gone through some very difficult

times, but my advice would be

to just keep your eyes and ears

open, because opportunities come along, and you must

have the courage to just go

Ms Bonner says women are

naturally cut out for the chal-

lenge. "Women are prepared

to take a few more risks than

men. I went through a divorce,

had to keep the mortgage go-ing, feed the children ... Wom-

en are able to do these things.

A lot of people think it's very

romantic to run your own busi-

ness. It's not, but you do get a

great sense of achievement."

sit and listen."

More career women are leaving employment to set up on their own, says Jon Ashworth

Leap in dark promises bright future

very year in Britain, more than 150,000 women take a deep breath and leap into the uncharted waters of running their own business. Some sail along with ease while others struggle just to keep up with the current. But dannting as it is, few will regret taking

the plunge.
More and more career women are trading the inflexibility of the office for the challenge and freedom of running their own show. It often holds a particular appeal for women at a particular stage of their ca-reer, typically in their mid-tolate-thirties and early forties. when they feel they have gone as far as they can within the corporate structure. Either they have come up against the glass ceiling, or have grown frustrated juggling work and family commitments.

Many aspire to the success of Anita Roddick, who started Body Shop with her husband, Gordon, with a single shop in Brighton in 1976. When it came to the stock market eight years later, the company was worth £8 million, making Rod-dick an "instant" £1.5 million, Body Shop is no longer the novelty it once was, but remains one of Britain's most famous exports, with 1,600 stores in 47 countries.

Ms Roddick was no different to any other small entrepreneur when she called on her bank manager, seeking to bor-row £4,000. She recalls: "I went to the bank and did everything wrong. I took my kids, I wore. eans, I was wearing a Bob Dylan T-shirt . . . I came back with Gordon a week later; he had profit-and-loss sheets, looked respectable, and suddenly we were taken seriously."

Ms Roddick says she is aware of many more women leaving big corporations to set up on their own. They have grown tired of the patriarchal culture and crave the flexibility that comes with being your own boss. Women are better networkers than men - they are notfrightened to ask questions and tend to be more innovative:

Companies are increasingly looking to outsource the supply of goods and services, making this a good time to go it alone. "Any woman can set up a small satellite business to do things that big business can't do." Ms Roddick observes. "It's a very

exciting time for them." --She adds: "My advice would





وي زامن رائيمل

Aurelia Cecil, left, set up her public relations firm at the age of 23, while Anita Roddick started Body Shop with a £4,000 loan from her bank manager

be: don't think big, think brilliant, think different. Once you get too big, your original ideas and creativity gets lost. When setting up, you should look to go in the opposite direction. We just ran in the opposite direction to what the cosmetics industry was doing. Once you have found one or two things which are different to the competition, shout it from the

Another role model is Aurelia Cecil, sometime consort of the Duke of York, who set up Amelia Public Relations with a £7,000 small business loan when she was 23. Abbott Mead Vickers, the advertising group, bought the company last year for up to £4.25 mil-lion (depending on hitting growth targets) but Aurelia, 31, remains at the helm. "It's very important that you be-lieve in yourself," she says. "I remember, when I was young, a few people thought this is: never going to work. It's like sports people: When they're training at five o'clock in the

morning, they're dreaming of that gold medal. You have to work unbelievably hard: seven days a week, 8am 'til Hpm." Caroline Turner, 35, set up Hyperactive Publicity after more than a decade climbing. the corporate ladder. She spent years on the road with rock bands such as INXS while working for Laister

Dickson, an entertainment publicity company, then worked for a year as director of European publicity for Warner Films, based in Soho. She says: "It was then that I realised I wasn't a big company person at all."

Ms Turner set up Hyperactive in just eight days after she was approached to handle publicity for the Three Tenors concert. "I would never, ever, work again for a big corporation because so much time is spent on politics and fitting in to the company mode. There is so much more you could do in the job if you were allowed to get on and do what you most. want to do."

She adds: "People who should be promoted are. passed over for jobs because they don't play the political game, which is why a lot of women are setting up on their own. A big corporation has already got its own culture, and it's very difficult to leave your stamp on it."

s Turner says can be all-consuming, but does not regret the move. "It's the most risky. the most scary, the most frightening, but also the most exhilarating thing that I have done."

Helena Conibear left her job as a Bath-based regional manager with Mentzendorff, importers of Bollinger champagne, and now works from home in rural Somerset running various wine-related projects. She resumed work- set up in Britain last year were ing full-time after the birth of stormed by women, according her first baby, Charlotte, but found that her perceptions had changed.

Ms Conibear says: "The great benefit of being self-employed is the flexibility - being able to take a month off in August if you want to — and the variety: it's much more stimulating. It needs much greater discipline, but you are your own boss."

She had progressed as far as she could within Mentzendorff without compromising her family life. There was no way I could go up without going to London." Her husband, Simon, has a successful career of his own, making the leap in the dark somewhat less daunting. "I found it a terrible shock to start with: losing the pension, the company car, the credit cards, all the eating out . . . l'd hate to be the main breadwinner: It would be more stressful if you didn't have a

second income coming in." About a third of companies set up in Britain last year were to Barclays Bank. Only is per cent of women in business are under 35, while 40 per cent fall into the 35 to 44 age group, and 42 per cent are over 45.

Perhaps, not surprisingly, two thirds of businesses run from home are run by women. Benefits include flexible working hours and practices, being your own boss, reduced travelling time and improved quality of life. Being able to look after the children is another important consideration. Barclays expects advances in technology to swell the numbers even further.

Peter Oatley, manager of small business banking at Bar-clays, says: "Women in general are very positive about the role they're playing in the busi-ness community and draw strength from the successful female entrepreneurs such as Anita Roddick, who have made it from very humble beginnings. Career women feel more confident and find it easi-

er to set up on their own." Mr Oatley's advice to those contemplating this route is to do your research - make sure there is a market for your prod-

Peter Kilfoyle, Minister for Public Service in the Cabi-net Office, will answer ques-tions on better regulation and red tape live on the En-terprise Zone website at www.enterprisezone.org.uk uct - and set out your objec-tives in a clear business plan. tonight at 6pm. Anita Saldanha, a London-

□ Nearly two thirds of small business owners expect to witness a downturn in trading over the next 18 months, ac cording to the latest Small Business Bulletin from Barciays. This has prompted the majority of small firms to take steps to counteract the effects of the economic slowdown, mainly by increasing marketing activity and reducing costs.

☐ The number of organisations signing up to the Govern-ment-backed better payment practice code has reached 900. The list is on the Internet at

thing that will take up quite a lot of their working hours. It's ☐ Co-operative groups should be formed to build Internet knowledge among small businesses, the Assocication of Chartered Certified Accountwho would agree is Meriel Spencer, 55, ants has recommended after a study showed little use of the Web. The findings are set out who supplies specialist equipment to BT and cain UK Business and the Information Superhighway: The Impact of the Internet on SMEs, which is available free by callher home near Swindon. She spent most of her career as a ing 0141-309 3999. ting up on her own nearly four

☐ Buying British is preferred by small and medium-sized businesses, which believe they will boost domestic employ ment in this way. A survey for Lloyds Bank, compiled by the Small Business Research Trust, shows that 45 per cent of businesses actively seek British goods and 12 per cent would pay more to buy British.

An audio tane advising small companies on improving productivity has been produced by Business Pages, the business-to-business directory. The tape, including tips from Professor Cary Cooper, a management expert, recommends motivating staff through profit-sharing and involving them in decision-making, and reducing stress by performing tasks in order of priority. Inquiries: 0117 932 2005.

☐ More people aged 50 and over are starting businesses, partly to maintain their standard of living in retirement, a Barciays Bank study has found. The over-50s proportion of the population has risen from 18 to 20 per cent in six years and the number of businesses started by them is now 50,000 a year. The study revealed that a fifth of these entrepreneurs will stop

working only when they die.

campaign links firms to India

By BRIAN COLLETT

BUSINESS Link Thames Valley is putting up £2,400 in back a marketing campaign for a project to link small busi-nesses facing the millerminn bug with computer expects in India.

The remote method of millemium proofing computer software is being offered to small companies to overcome the shortage of informationtechnology specialists here. Lateral Connections, an em-

rmobile

ployment agency in Brack-nell, Berkshire, has found skilled IT people in India to do the bug-bosting The millen-nium-proofing companies have been vetted by British IT experts. Lateral Connections is offering to fly in teams if businesses prefer to have the work done on site. Lateral Connections is re-

cruiting more bug busters in Eastern Europe, mainly Romania, Hungary, Ukraine

Nigel Wood, Lateral Connections' director, believes new solutions are needed because even the 20,000 specialists being trained with government money will not be sufficient.

Bug-busters in Britain are. charging between £800 and £2,000 a day. Mr Wood said: "Even bringing in teams is cheaper than using IT people here. We will employ the teams, pay the market rate. and add a margin when billing. This is still about half the price people are charging in

Bug-buster Dockyard site becomes home to IT sector

that conduct their operations electronically is being established in West Wales.

The listed buildings at Pen-broke's Royal Dockyard are being converted into Wales's first information technology park by the Welsh Develop ment Agency (WDA) and Pem-brokeshire County Council

The first company, Graphic Data, has moved in it specialises in scanning and microfilming documents, such as technical drawings and plans. and it has created 12 jobs in the park. Three more businesses are considering following suit, including a company be-longing to Nigel Cox, one of the park's insignators.

As managing diretor of Bookflow Limited he specialises in the provision of information services to libraries. But his intention for Pembroke is to attract a cluster of information technology businesses with mutually complementary technologies in the communications and electronic publish-

ing sectors.

He is convinced that, by sharing facilities and specialist equipment, companies' costs can be reduced.
"To make this scheme a fo-

cus of European importance we need to create a substantial range of job opportunities," Mr Cox said. This would justify investment in the develop-ment of necessary skills and in-tellectual interests."

A HOME for small businesses ...

West Wales Training and Enterprise Council has already been roped in to provide the requisite training for local

Attracting new industrial sectors to West Wales is crucial after the crisis in agriculture and the cutbacks in the oil industry. Information technology is particularly welcome as a job creator, according to Nick Ainger, Labour MP for Perabroke, because it "overcomes the peripherality" that has plagued Pembrokeshire

The WDA also plans a pro-gramme to encourage the spin-ning-out of more businesses from Welsh higher education. The long-term aim of the Top Spin programme is to build a cluster of high-tech companies to exploit research work at Welsh academic institutions and provide work for the 90,000 full-time students that attend them.

Business start-up support is likely to include interest-free loans of up to £25,000, access to space and technical facilities at universities and consultancy. It is hoped that some funding will come from the European Regional Development Fund. One of the task force members is Dr Owen Jones, chairman of Agrisense, a company ser up in 1984 as a spin-out to exploit biological technology developed partly at Cardiff University.

State aid to boost electronic

AN EXTRA £20 million will

to on-line trading.
This extension of the Govern-ment's Information Society Ini-

provide specialist services.

business

By SALLY WATTS

help more small firms to take advantage of the opportunities provided by electronic com-merce. By 2002, the Govern-ment aims to treble to one mil-lion the number of small businesses wired up to the digital marketplace. Measures will include removing legal barriers

tiative is announced in the White Paper, Our Competitive Future: Building the Knowledge Driven Economy.
The White Paper also an-

nounces support for growing SMEs in English regions fac-ing economic difficulty or high unemployment, such as coalmining areas, cities, coastal towns or countryside areas with a decline in traditional job opportunities. This support will come via the new re-

gional development agencies. Through a new £150 million Enterprise Fund, entrepreneurs will be helped to start and grow high-value business es; the fund will build on the Small Firms Loan Guarantee Scheme and will stimulate ven-ture capital for businesses with potential to grow.

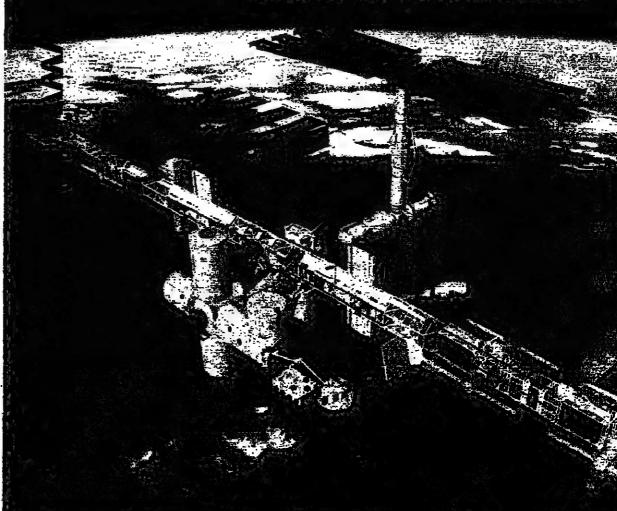
A further incentive will be in-

creased opportunities for small companies to collabo-rate with both large compa-nies and universities to develop ideas. In addition, new centres of expertise will be attached to Business Links to

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Yes! It's a new epoch -

Access to e-mails queried

tion. Under proposed changes

cess to e-mails has led to an alternative proposal that is even more intrusive, says Maclay Murray & Spens, a firm of solicitors that claims to have the largest intellectual property department in Scotland (Bri-

an Collett writes). warrant to gain access to e Claire McCartney, of Ma-mails if Internet providers clay Murray & Spens, said

the police would still need a warrant, but would be licensed to use decoding software for en-crypted e-mails. To avoid this, the Internet providers are discussing an agreement allowan Collett writes), ing the police to monitor e-At present, the police need a mails without a warrant.

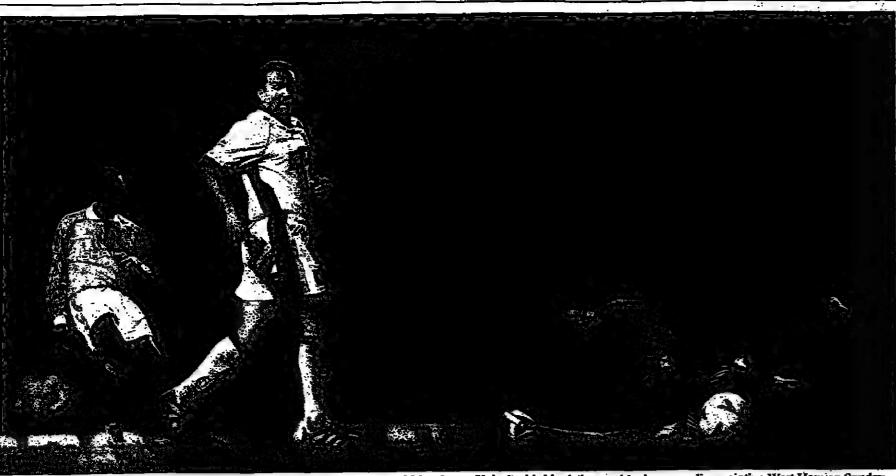
businesses from using elec-tronic commerce, which is being promoted by the European Commission as the trading medium of the future. The law firm will approach

the Home Office with objections to any intrusion into confidential e-mails when it knows whether the agreement or legislation is to go ahead.

CHOOSE YOUR PLAYERS FROM HERE

Columns show: code, name, club,

COAL KETPERS



Red alert: Andy Cole slots the ball past Shaka Hislop for his second goal and Manchester United's third in their easy 4-1 win over a disappointing West Ham on Sunday

Revealed: why the Big Ron factor will sink Arsenal

n a formight's time The Times Fantasy League will be taking a week's break while the fourth-round FA Cup matches are played. On Tuesday January 24 we will publish player lists updated to include the Aston Villa v Everton game played on Monday January 18. but there will be no weekly prize or ON-Target numbers. Prizes will roll over to the following week.

If you are planning a transfer or two, it might be worth thinking about taking the unusual step of replacing any Arsenal defenders you may have in your side. Why? Consider the following.

On December 21, 1996 Arsenal led the FA Carling Premiership table when they visited the City Ground to play Nottingham Forest, the bottom team. However, Forest had just made a managerial change, replacing Frank Clark with Stuart Pearce. Inspired by the new boss, Forest triumphed 2-1.

We move on to November 22. 1997. Big Ron Atkinson had just taken control at moribund Sheffield Wednesday, and found himself facing the daunting prospect of a visit from none other than Arsenal. in second place, fresh from a 3-2 win over Manchester United, for his first game in charge of the team. Inspired by the new boss, Wednesday triumphed 2-0.

We move on again. It is January 1999. Nottingham Forest have sacked Dave Bassett, and confirmed the appointment of Ron Atkinson as their new manager. On Saturday, his first match in charge of his new side will be at the City Ground, against - you guessed it, Arsenal. Inspired by the new boss ...?

This weekend's matches are the "return fixtures" of the opening games of the season. Wimbledon beat Tottenham 3-1 at Selhurst Park on a sunny day in August, and kick off a three-game series against the same opposition with an encounter at White Hart Lane, before meeting Spurs twice more in Worthington and FA Cup ties. Expect a cagey performance from the visitors, who



relish visiting the more fashionable London grounds and puncturing expectations. Rest assured that Joe Kinnear will have devised a plan for dealing with David Ginola, and will be looking forward to putting it into practice on Saturday.

Elsewhere, the games between

Leeds United and Middlesbrough and Derby County and Blackburn look too close to call, but Cheisea Liverpool and West Ham will expect three points each from home matches with Coventry, Southampton and Sheffield Wednesday respectively. Chelsea, especially, will be looking forward to revenge against Coventry, whose opening-day 2-1 victory was Chelsea's only league defeat of the season so far.

Perhaps the most interesting match-up sees Manchester United visit Filbert Street to face Martin O'Neill's high-energy Leicester City suspended Matt Elliott, but will still make things difficult for the visitors. On Sunday, what price an end to Charlton's losing run when inconsistent Newcastle come to The

■ Do not forget to check your team total against today's ON-Target number. If the numbers match, you have qualified to enter a draw which could win you £500 cash plus an EA Sports Pack. Even if your team scored only nine points in the week beginning January 5, you still have a chance of winning.

- £50,000 to the top Fantasy League manager, plus a trip for two to the European Cup final
- 9 £15,360 to the runner-up
- £5,960 for third place
- £1,000 monthly prizes: eight prizes of £1,000, plus £100 of Puma sports equipmen
- 2500 weekly prizes: 36 prizes of £500, plus £100 of Puma sports
- £1,000 youth prize, plus monthly prizes of a Premiership football shirt © £500 weekly On-Target prize

As I was saying

I don't want to seem to be boring . . . Perish the thought Or a bit of an anorak . . . I would never accuse you of But Newcastle's socks are beginning to worry me. You don't mean they've changed them again? I'm afraid so. What is it now, then? Pink? Purple? A special winter design in brown, so as not

to show the mad? Well, nothing so drastic, actually. Still black, but that white ring round the middle seems to have disappeared now, judging by the television pictures of the Cheisea game.

So you're telling me that the Newcastle sorks you got me for Christmas are out of date already, are you? I may be. But then you probably remember that they changed to white, then went back to their original design again; so it may not be too late. You'll be back in fashion in no time at all. Is it Rund Gullit being

superstitious, do you reckon? There's no doubt in my mind. Get the socks right, and the rest will follow. And a set of socks costs much less than a new left back. Are you sure? Have you scen the prices of football

kit recently? OK, a decent left back, then. Are you Fantasy League managers superstitious at all? Do you have any sad rituals like always watching the weather forecast on Teletext before looking at the results? Or wearing a locky hat to check the player

lists? Putting one sock on before the other? You'd end up with two socks on one foot if you didn't. Mind you, some of my fantasy team seem to grow two left feet as soon as I transfer them in. Remember I put Berkovic in my new team? Only two points from

him on Sunday.
Lucky to get that. West
Ham never do well at Old. Trafford. In fact, they're not so hot in away games ecnerally.

What you're saying is that players who are with teams that are more consistent will get you more regular points. So who should I avoid, apart from West Ham? Newcastic, I'd say, and Derby, too. You never know what they're going to Blackburn look as if they might make a determined bottom of the table, but peither performs too well away from home. So who do you recommend? With eight straight defeats?

You can't get more my husband is very superstitious. He only Wears socks



HOW TO ENTER YOUR FANTASY LEAGUE TEAM team and make sure the total does not exceed

those listed right. The total value of your team must not exceed £50m and you cannot choose more than one player from the same Premiership club. Your team must be in a 4-4-2 formation with: one goalkeeper; two full-backs; two centre-backs; four midfielders; and two forwards. TO ENTER BY POST Name your team on the

entry form, left, in no more than 16 characters. Enter the correct three-digit player codes from the list, right, followed by the players' names. Enter the first three characters of each player's team under the heading CLUB, le, LEE for Leeds. Also enter the value of each player shown on the list right. Add up the values of the 11 players in your

GOALKEEPER NAME

FULL-BACK NAME

CENTRE-BACK NAME

MIDFIELDER NAME

MIDRELDER NAME

MAXIMUM OF ONE PLAYER

CODE

LUCKY DIP If you wish to have your team selected by us at random, tick box.

250m. Send your entry to the address shown, with a cheque/PO for £2.50 (£10 sterling outside UK or Rol) or your credit-card details. You will get confirmation of your team and your personal identity number (PfN) on receipt of your entry form. Readers under 18 should seek parental mission before entering. They must state their date of birth and indicate if they wish to enter our

LUCKY DIP If you would like us to select a team at random for you, please tick the Lucky Dip box on the entry form. Postal entries only. TO ENTER BY PHONE Call 0640 67 88 99 (+44 870 901 4209 outside the UK) using a touch-

THE TIMES MAIN FANTASY LEAGUE ENTRY FORM

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tone (DTMF) phone and when prompted tap in your 11 three-digit player codes. You will be asked to give the name of your team (no more than 16 characters). You will then be given a 10-digit PIN, make sure you write this down and keep it safe to be able to check your team's progress and make transfers. Calls last about seven minutes. 0640 alls are 60p per minute. Calls from outside the

UK are charged Calls from payphones cost Promotorus (M. PO Star 425, Street, London E7 8XY

1	I also wish to enter the Youth League (please tick)
	J was under 18 on August 15, 1998. Date of birth
ı	Address
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۱	Sand with 22.50 entry fee (E10 starting for entrants outside the UK or Roll) for The Times Fantasy Langua, Abecus House, Dudley St, Luton, Beds LUT 122.
	1. On which days do you usually buy The Times? The Norday Treedby Wednesday Thereday String Strings Don't usually buy The Times
١	2. Which other national delty remepoper(s) do you buy at least once a week?
Ì	Which Sunday newspaper(s) do you buy almost always (3-4 copies per month)?

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CENTRE BACKS

FORWARDS

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Accountant's team adds up to £500

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This week's Fantasy League winner from Lincolnshire showed the benefit of using the transfer allocation in a shrewd way

ast week on these pages, we were complaining that several players on The Times Fantasy League lists had accomplished fine feats in the FA Cup which counted for nothing in Pantasy terms as they had taken place in FA Cup third-round ties. Darren Huckerby's hat-trick in the game against Macclesfield Town was mentioned prominently. Well, as if to make up for the ...

frustration and anguish suffered seven days ago by Fantasy League entrants with Huckerby in their team, the Coventry City centre forward did it again on Saturday in his team's 4-0 win over Nottingham Forest at Highfield Road. A low half-volley from John

Aloisi's flick and a chip over Dave Beasant were followed by Huckerby's characteristic run from deep, beating man after man before slipping the ball home. And he hit a post after running from his own half, just for good measure.
Huckerby began his career at Lincoln City before being signed by

Newcastle United. For some reason best known to Kevin Keegan, the manager, he played only once before being loaned to Millwall, for whom he scored three times in six games, and then sold to Coventry. In these days of target men and withdrawn forwards playing "in the hole", he is something of a throwback. Described while at Millwall as "a player who sees the whites of the goalposts and heads off towards them by the most direct route possible", he is a single-minded. goalscorer, who also happens to possess considerable dribbling skills

and a thunderous shot. He can also be immensely frustrating. Many people will recall the playground superstar of their schooldays who got hold of the ball and would not let it go until he either scored or was dispossessed, and some of them feel a sense of dejá vu when they set eyes on

Huckerby. Last season, as Coventry cantered to a 5-1 victory over Bolton Wanderers at the Reebok Stadium, there was a revealing moment when Huckerby broke clear of the last defender with George Boateng, the midfield player, in close support As they neared the edge of the penalty area, Boateng thought better of it and stopped running. He knew full well that, with the goal in his sights, Huckerby would never entertain the notion of passing, nor did he. His failure to score was probably

Saturday's hat trick was worth nine points to any Fantasy League competitors fortunate enough to have selected him: Jim Ball, for

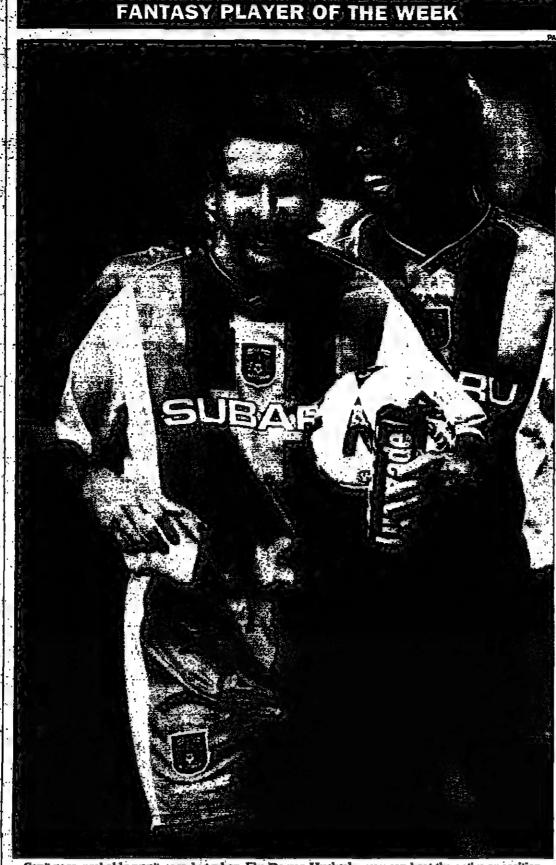


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J Redimapp (LIV)	
E Berkovie (WES)	
A Mielson (TOI)	
R Gloce (MAN)	
D Yorke (AST)	
D Hackerby (CCV)	

instance, the winner of this week's prize of £500 plus £100-worth of sports equipment. "One of the cheaper forwards, but likely to score for any team," is the verdict of Mr Ball, a supporter of Crewe Alexandra, on Huckerby.

Mr Ball organises a 24-team league within the company be works for, J. E. Churchill of Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, and found that he was spending so much time administering other people's teams that he had to make a conscious effort to update his own. The team had been doing absolutely nothing for a long time," he explained. "I sat down about two months ago and made half a dozen transfers: it's a case of getting around to getting your transfers in." Good advice to Fantasy League managers: his signings included Ryan Giggs. Dwight Yorke and Andy Hinchcliffe, all of whom contributed this week to his total score of 33 points, as well as his namesake, Michael, of Everton, "who seems to figure in so many

successful Fantasy selections. So well done, Company Chefs FC Mr Ball, an accountant, tells us unashamedly that the name refers to jocular accusations that he cooks



Can't pass, probably won't pass; but when, like Darren Huckerby, you can beat the entire opposition team twice over then put the ball in the back of the net, who's worried? Not supporters of Coventry City, who saw Huckerby's lust for goals (or is it match balls?) net him another hat trick on Saturday

Kalbs Kings 8 Tonys Terrors. 231 230 228 228 227 227 226 225 225 224 223 223 Corezon Fis 5... Scotts Stars.... Stromosnutter Solid At The Ba Murray's Marvels. Tyneside Army 94 Dion Dion Dion.... Lokomativ Na Go Cyclones..... Eat My Goal. ,Wallys Wonders 2 Bill & Teds Team... Euro Stars These Est Beans Don 5..... Inter City 442. Super Snipers FC Bob's Blasters Edmo Utd Minet Naisell Reserve Pride O The Rock

FANTASY LEAGUE TOP 100

So what if your team is quite useless? You can win anyway

Enter a new team now for ON-Target, where this week you only needs to score a paltry nine points to win the weekly prize

ongratulations to Tony Evans of West Wycombe the fourth week's main winner of ON-Target, who finds himself £500 richer and possessor of an EA Sports Pack. Fourteen other managers have also won themselves excellent

Even if you do not have a Fantasy League team, you can enter this new game now - or enter a new one simply for ON-Target All managers have the chance to win a share of £28,000 of new prizes. The Times has teamed up with EA Sports to offer you the chance to own the renowned FIFA 99 game. Every week you have the chance to win: lst Prize: £500 plus an EA Sports Pack

4 runners up: EA Sports Packs 10 additional runners up: Fifa 99 CD-Rom. Each EA Sports Pack con-

tains: FIFA 99 for the Playstation; FIFA '99 for the PC; EA Sports T-Shirt, key ring and mini football plus a record bag. IF YOU already have a team in the main game, then you're ready to play ON-Target. Simply check your Fantasy League players' score each week and

see if their total is the same as our ON-Target score shown here each Tuesday. If you have scored the exact target points, a quick call to our ON-Target winners'. line (national rate call) will put you in the draw to win one of the 15 prizes. The ON-Target score may be high or low. There could be more than one score (such as today). It could be a minus score. So it's worth

checking your performance every week. Just have your PIN number handy to call the winners line on:

0870 901 4270



If you don't have a team, HOW TO ENTER: Look up or want to sign up another your players' weekly one enter now by filling in point stores opposite the entry form. There are and add them up, or call no limits to how many the checkline 0640 625 teams you enter. Not only could you win the ON-Tar get prizes, but you could win the main game weekly (£500) or monthly (£1,000) prizes

. 102. If your total score for this week matches the ON-Target number(s). then call our claim line on 0870 981 4270 (calls. charged at national rate,





Claims must be made before midnight on Sunday night. The lines then close until the next game starts on Toesday If you have scored the correct

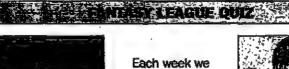
the claim line, you go into the draw. Just look in the paper on the following Tuesday to see if you have won. Managers with the correct points who have not called the claim line will not be entered. Calls that are incomplete, inaudible or invalid will not be entered. All teams in the draw

must conform to the main

number of points AND called

game rules. This week's winners are: Mr Tony

Evans of West Wycombe (5500 plus EA Sports Pack); Mr Simon plus EA Sports Pack); Mr Simon Caldwell of Holyhead, Mr Lawrence Dawncey of London WI7, Ms Nicola Bridge of London WI3 and Mr L Benson of Ormskirk (EA Sports Packs); Ms Helen Barrow of Wirral, Mr Jamie Bryan of London E3, Mr Martin Premante of Edebaston, Mr R Nellsen of Lotidon SW6, Mr Daniel Jennings of Bristol, Mr Graham Waters of Shrewsbury, Mr David Hargrave of Kirkstall, Leeds, Mr Peter Mason of Weston-super-Peter Mason of Weston-super-Mare, Mark Hitchcocks of West



challenge your

footballing brains with a test. Last



week there were pictures of Karlheinz Riedle, Ugo Ehiogu, Carl Cort and Jonathan Hunt - all of whom scored goals in the last ten minutes of their matches the previous weekend.



This week we offer four more pictures with a connection. Identify the names and the link should become obvious

Answer next week



CHECK YOUR SCORES TELEPHONE 0640 62 51 02

1	2 Young	FAGIF 10PLO	
Γ	Robert Anderson	Robert's Rovers	2
	David Swithenbank	Titus All Stars	2
	Stuart Rutter	Spitonthevilla	2
L	Richard Low	Geocir United	2
	Alexander Thackray No.	rrfs., Finchmeadrovers	2
	Swalast Popet	Popet's Army	2
		Where Was Gazza	2
	Richard Burton	No Fear	2
		The M Team	2
		Saxham Tuesdays	2



Flo, flu, sicknotes and suspensions

ast week, we touched on the subject of the importance of injuries, illnesses and suspensions in The Times Fantasy League. which events over the past weekend only served to emphasise.

Any player who picked up his fifth or eighth booking of the season received a one-match suspension for the fourth round of the FA Cup. The good news for Fantasy

League managers is that it ensures that the player concerned will not miss an all-important Premiership match as a result of suspension. Both Phil Babb and Martin Keown came into this extegory, and Fantasy managers with either of these two in their teams are able to raise a wry smile.

AND THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF THE PARTY

However, suspensions are starting to mount as players reach the critical number of yellow cards for a one-match ban. Steve Stone, Matt Elliott and Neil Redfearn are among those missing out next weekend, with Paulo

Wanchope and Patrick Vieira banned for the next two league games after recent sendings-off. On the subject of illnesses, it

TRANSFER LINE Want to make one of your 12

0640 62 51 03 (ex-UK +44 870 901 4293) 0640 calls cost 60p per minute.

Ex-UK calls charged

is the time of year when the flu bug makes an impact on many Premiership sides, although the effect of the virus tends to depend on the player who is stricken. For example, Paul Ince

showed his determination to increase his Fantasy League points total even though, by his own admission, he was feeling distinctly under the weather. Despite not producing his usual standard of performance, be realised that he is unable to add to his tally if he doesn't

In contrast, if Darren "Sicknote" Anderton has so much as a sniffle, it is rumoured that he hands Spurs manager George Graham a letter from his mother excusing him from training. However, it was a thigh injury that caused

him to miss the last hour of Tottenham's encounter with Sheffield Wednesday at the

It could be interesting to keep an eye on players who are returning to first-team action after a long injury lay-off, or those replacing an injured

Gary Kelly, for instance, is lined up for an imminent return to the Leeds United team after a long-term injury and his wing-back role makes him perfectly capable of amassing plenty of assists from wide positions.

Chelsea player-manager Gianluca Vialli, too, is likely to make the most of Tore Andre Flo's six-week absence by putting himself straight into

THE TIMES TODAY

Santer agrees EU clean-up

All European Union staff are to be bound by a code of conduct designed to curb corruption, nepotism and mismanagement under reforms accepted by Jacques Santer to avoid censure and the dismissal of all European Commissioners.

The Commission President also accepted a proposal from the German Chancellor, Gerhard Schröder for a high-level review of the Commission's workings by the Parliament and member

Beachy Head crumbles

Safety experts were examining Beachy Head after a section of rockface crashed into the sea in what could be Britain's biggest single loss of coastline in living memory. The unmanned lighthouse has been effectively rejoined to the Sussex coast after thousands of tonnes of chalk fell 500ft into the sea Page 1

Yemeni charges

Five Britons detained in Yemen on suspicion of plotting terrorist outrages are likely to be charge within 48 hours, Robin Cook told _Page i the Commons.

Blair gamble

Tony Blair put the beleaguered National Health Service at the heart of his attempt to reassert the Government's authority....Page 1

Muslim violence A radical London-based Muslim

organisation has a website which depicts a hand grenade and promotes the use of violence.. Page 3

Mandelson's hope

Peter Mandelson could be back in the Cabinet before the end of next year. The timing of such a return would allow the former Trade Secretary to perform a high-profile role in the run up to the next general election....

Boot camp praised

Offenders at the only "boot camp" in England and Wales have praised the tough regime of drill and physical exercise provided there, according to an inspection report...

Policeman accused

A police officer stole £700 from an 83-year-old disabled woman after calling at her home to give advice on crime prevention, a court was ...Page 5

Farmer Bell

Martin Bell, the Independent MP, is about to be overshadowed once more by his late father. Adrian Bell's bestelling book, Corduroy, telling how he came to live and work on a small Suffolk farm, has returned to print for the first time in 20 years Page 6

Teacher's trauma

A teacher who helped to identify dead and injured children after the Dunblane massacre has been awarded compensation for mental trauma, while some bereaved families have yet to receive a pen-

Brown's defence

Gordon Brown mounted a strong defence of new Labour and heaped praise on Tony Blair's modernising in a bid to reassure the public that there was no rift between them....

iraqi targets

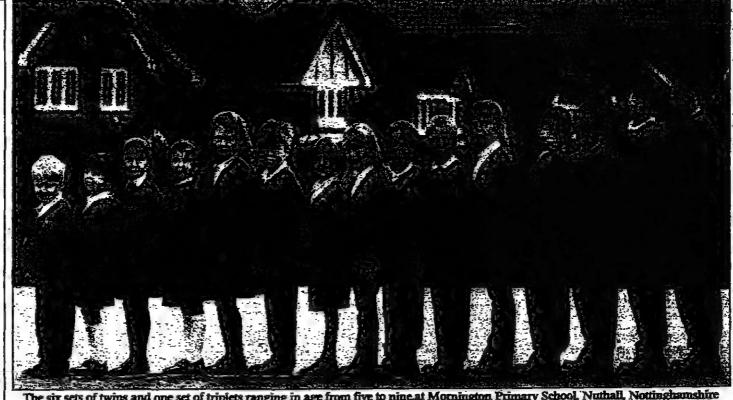
American warplanes fired on Iraof missile batteries and Kuwait put some of its forces on "maximum alert" in two attacks as tension escalated with a defiant Baghdad...

Freetown fighting

Fierce fighting flared up again in Freetown as Nigerian-led intervention forces launched a counterattack to drive rebels from the port and eastern part of Sierra. Leone's capital...

Guardians of the lost Ark

For nearly 3,000 years, as fans of Raiders of the Lost Ark might know, people have been searching for the lost Ark of the Covenant. In Ethiopia, however, the search for the chest containing the Ten Commandments never began. The Ethiopians believe that the Holy Ark has been been with them all along, or at least since it was removed from Jerusalem...



The six sets of twins and one set of triplets ranging in age from five to nine at Mornington Primary School, Nuthall, Nottinghamshire

Tobacco merger, British American Tobacco announced a £15 billion merger with Rothmans International, which will have a 16 per cent share of the worldwide cigarette market_ ...Page 25.

Goldman coup: The chief executive of Goldman Sachs was pushed aside in an internal power struggle yesterday after forcing the investment banking partnership into an ill-fated flotation. Page 25

Post charge: The Post Office and the Government were attacked for secrecy over the first big overseas postal purchase — thought to be worth up to £375 million....Page 25 Markets: The FTSE100 fell 62.2 to 6085.0. The pound fell .01 cents to \$1.6400 and rose .06p to 70.34p against the euro... ..Page 28. Cricket: England recorded their secand win in two matches in the triangular series in Australia when they heat Sri Lanka by four wickets with three balls to spare Page 48 Football: Ron Atkinson's appointment as manager of Nottingham Forest was confirmed. He will be-

fore his new team, in bottom place, plays the reigning Premiership champions, Arsenal..... Page 48 Rugby league: Maurice Lindsay is to step down after spending 20 years at the forefront of the British

gin the job on Friday, the day be-

Page 45 Racing: Jockeys, who break the whip rules in big races from March I could be given a lengthy ban. The offending rider will be referred to the Jockey Club.

Comic cuts: Lez Lochhead's warm play Perfect Days arrives in London from its Edinburgh success, with Siobhan Redmond playing celebrity hairdresser Barbs, desperate for a baby..... Page 32

Music, maestros: The PLG Young Artists Series continues with an impressive performance of Ives by an Australian planist. The Hallé pays homage to Catalonia Page 32 Saatchi says: Not content with collecting contemporary art by the truckload, Charles Saatchi has now named an entire art movement -Neurotic Realism _____Page 33 White magic: The dance form bu-

toh has come a long way since its birth in Japan in the 1950s, as Sadier's Wells audiences will discover from Sankai Juku.... Page 34

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

INTERFACE

III and the art of dreams. Plus, helping the blind to join the Internet

HOMES

For sale, London's splendid town most · house

spector of Prisons..... Page 15 Mummy's boy: Every woman knows that for all their talk of independent lifestyles; men just want to be mothered.

> IT boost: An extra £20 million will be provided to help small firms to take advantage of electronic com-Page 21

..Page 15

Live longer. In the second extract

from his book, the scientist Tom

Kirkwood discusses anti-ageing

foods and supplements Page 14

Doing time: Zimmer frames in the

cell blocks: the sort of depressing

sight to which General Sir David

Ramsbotham, has become inured

since he became Her Majesty's In-

Tempte talk: Not for years has an issue so dominated talk in the Temple and divided the talkers so deeply as the rights and wrongs of the Pinochet affair," writes Sir Louis Blom-Cooper..... ____ Page 37

Binyamin Netanyahu's original political patron, Moshe Arens, will be running against him in the party primary on January 25, it was confirmed yesterday. He will thus join MK Uzi Landau in challenging the increasingly beleaguered Netanyahu for the Likud leadership - The Jerusalem Post

Review: The effects of Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy (ITV, 10.40) Review: The League of Gentlemen already has the feel of a cult show, says Joe Joseph ____ Pages 46, 47

A tresh wind

With Labour always looking for a fresh wind, Mr Blair could let Mr Mandelson loose on campaigning before the election. But even "the last lot" would not have countenanced a return to office so soon after such a disgrace____Page 17

Real Germans

Germany is one of the few countries in Western Europe that still equates citizenship with blood and soil. Apart from the unpleasant association with racial purity, the law is patently unsuited to today's con-

Once two is two

Numeracy is a basic skill which every parent expects their child to acquire, and which too many schools are failing to impart____Page 17

LIBBY PURVES

The only test of any action is whether it does good; and who can possibly benefit from this post-marital character assassination? Page 16

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JAMES LAUGHLAND The Bank of England should be privatised; it should mint a gold coin, the sovereign; and banknotes should be issued which are convertible on demand into it Page 16

MICHAEL GOVE

Are the members of the Labour Party, and the readers of The Guardian aware of the obsessions which grip the leader of their party and their paper's editor? Page 16

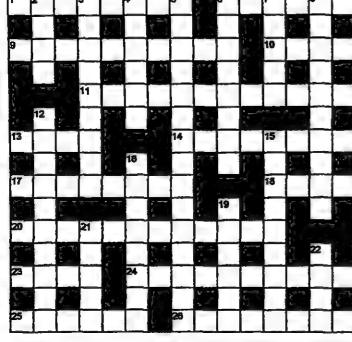
PETER RIDDELL

In the end, everything that matters in this Government comes back to Gordon Brown

Colonel Anthony Simmonds, MI9 officer: Jean-Claude Forest, cartoonist: Professor Tadeus Rybczyneki, economist....

Nurses; term-time holidays; officers' origins; religion; interest rates; honour in politics...

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,998



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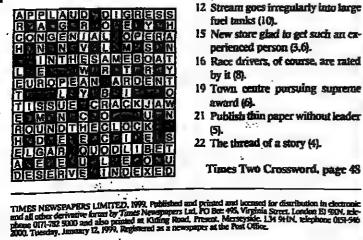
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Ar in in of

- I A revolutionary objective rejected in educational setting (8).
- 6 Period of abstinence in extremes of poverty is quite enough (6). 9 Gambler offering odds against
- Euro-currency taking pound to a peak (10).
- 10 See red coming into fashion (4). 11 Dreadfully sad once I lost? (12).
- 13 Crew throwing individual in 14 Regular soldiers, though, do
- 17 An awful lot eater put into stom-
- ach (8). 18 Induced doctor to join partner-
- 20 Confusion produced by less disciplined troops in venture (12).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,997



- - 24 Secret writing found in vanit given zero weight (10). 25 Dormant reptile has secured shel-
 - 26 Looking gloomy it's depressing
 - DOWN
 - 2 Cloak many copy (4). 3 Decline of new church seen, a number of years earlier (9).
 - 4 Like the issue of mixed parentage. difficult to handle (6).
 - 5 Early star or moon confused eminent watcher of the skies (10,5). 6 Mistletoe, say, supplied by the
 - 7 Learning to climb, but name in register (5).
 - 8 Highly-strung performers' lines (10)
 - 12 Stream goes irregularly into large fuel tanks (10). 15 New store glad to get such an ex-
 - perienced person (3,6). 16 Race drivers, of course, are rated
 - 19 Town centre pursuing supreme
 - award (6). 21 Publish thin paper without leader
 - 22 The thread of a story (4).

Times Two Crossword, page 48

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NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING Pecycled paper reads up 46,03% of the raw material

FREE BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS nore tokens you sollest the more free books you thook aza olaim. A tolom yell zopean an fise back page

section one in The Times each day until Securear

THE TIMES

VALKERS

☐ General: rain in all areas, briefly preceded by snow in Scotland, Wales, and wastern and northern England, especially on hiss, Drier overright except in Northern reland and western Scotland.

☐ London, SE & E England, E Anglia: starting dry and cold. Heavy rain by after-noon, Wind tresh SW. Max 6C (43F).

Toom, which was now, was no (war), heavy rain, show on higher ground, drier later. Wind treath S. Max 7C (45F).

I Chambel Islands: heavy rain clearing later. Wind fresh S. Max 7C (45F). CLSW, NW, Central N & NE England Wales, Lake District, lake of Mass: rai and hit-snow, then surny spells and show ers. Wind Iresh SW to W. Max 8C (43F).

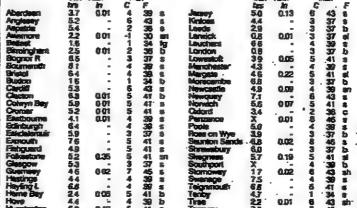
rain and snow than sunny spalls and showers. Wind strong SE to W. Max 5C (41F). ers, who strong St. to W. Max 5C (41r).

Aberdsen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orland, Shwilliand: rain and show clearing to surmy spells and blustery showers. Who strong SE to W. Max 5C (41r).

I SW & NW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Hightands, Arryll: breasy with frequent showers, some heavy. Wind fresh to strong, W to NW. Max 6C (43r).

It is learned breast with a province and

☐ Republic of treland: sunny intervels and blustery showers, especially in north west. Wind strong NW, Mex 8C (48F). ☐ Outlook: wet and windy.



Vesterday's highest day temp: Penzance 8C (46F); Lowest Avienore -lC (30F); Highest rainfall Folkestone 0.35ins; Sunniest Torquay 7.8hrs



Total number of lives saved in 1998:

Total number of lifeboat launches in 1998: Cost to RNLI per day: Cost to taxpayer: To make a donation, telephone:

ifeboats

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INSIDE **SECTION**



ECONOMICS

Anatole Kaletsky makes his 1999 predictions PAGE 29



ARTS

Lift a glass to Siobhan Redmond's latest play

PAGES 32-34



LAW

How Lord Hoffmann raised a host of issues

PAGES 37, 39

TELEVISION AND **RADIO Pages** 46, 47

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY JANUARY 12 1999

Corzine loses out in Goldman Sachs shake-up

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

JON CORZINE, the Goldman Sachs chief executive, was pushed aside in an internal power struggle yesterday after forcing the invest-

ment banking partnership into an ill-fated flotation. John Thornton, the Laura Ashley chairman and a senior partner, will

become co-chief operating officer tial windfall. The 250 partners were and is being lined up as a future set to be given equity stakes ranging head of the top Wall Street house. Mr Corzine, 52, had been the chief architect of the postponed \$30 bil-lion (£18 billion) flotation that would subject the business to the public

scrutiny of shareholders.

\$1 billion for Mr Corzine.

Mr Corzine, who will remain a partner, said: "I believe that this is in the best long-term interest of the scrutiny of shareholders.

The controversial flotation was put on hold in the autumn after market nurmoil had reduced the potenhan has not yet rescheduled the flotation.

The post of chief executive will be filled by Hank Paulson. Mr Corzine and Mr Paulson will continue to be co-chairmen. Mr Corzine will not re-

ceive a payoff.

Mr Thornton will share the post of co-chief operating officer with John Thain. A Goldman statement said they would have "broad respon-sibilities for the entire firm, across all divisions and regions". Insiders

see this as a clear hint that Mr Thornton and Mr Thain are set to

rise further to the top.

Mr Thornton holds the post of managing director at Goldman Sachs International, the London sub-

Goldman's senior management committees were also reshuffled yes-terday. The all-powerful executive committee, a six-man cabal that vet-

ted all executive decisions, will be replaced by a new management committee of which Mr Corzine will not

be a member. Mr Paulson said: "The best time for transition is during a period of great strength. We believe the appointments and the evolution of the governance of the firm will strengthen our management focus and keep the firm on a solid foundation."

Business optimism boosted by MPC rate cuts

BY JANET BUSH ECONOMICS EDITOR

BUSINESS optimism picked up late last year despite expectations of a sharp economic slowdown in 1999, largely because of the Monetary Policy Committee's willingness to cut interest raies,

The Institute of Directors' latest quarterly survey showed that business optimism im-proved slightly last month af-ter dramatic falls in confidence in the previous two. Similarly, firms in the financial sector, surveyed by the Confederation of British Industry and PricewaterhouseCoopers, said that they expected a sharp slowdown in business and significant job losses in the first quarter but were less gloomy than they were in September. Ruth Lea, Head of the Policy Unit at the IoD, attributed this to lower rates and said the institute was confident recession would be avoided in the UK economy. She noted, however, that manufacturing industry is already in recession, a view sureacy in recession, a view supported by figures from the Office for National Statistics yesterday. They showed that manufacturing output fell 0.2 per cent in November company of the fourth of the fourth. pared with October, the fourth

successive monthly fall. The economy as a whole may have narrowly escaped a contraction in the final quarter of last year. Based on yesterday's output figures, the National Institute of Economic and Social Research yesterday estimated that growth in the three months to December

was a marginal 0.1 per cent. The British Retail Consortium said retail sales in December had shown no growth from a year ago and sales fell 0.3 per cent on average in the three months to December, the worst performance since the BRC figures started in March 1994.

The ONS said output prices in December were no higher than a year ago, the best per-formance for 40 years. In addition, Incomes Data Services indicated that wage deals are be-

BUSINESS TODAY

FTSE 100_ 6085.0 (-62.2) 2.69% Yield 2.557x FTSE All Share 2762.73 (-21.95) Nikidei 13368.48 (-23.33) LONGON MOKEY

119.24 (119.64) New York:

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* denotes midday tracking prices Lukewarm

London close...... \$292.70 (\$291.45)

reaction to **Enterprise** Lasmo deal

BY CARL MORTISHED

INSTITUTIONS have given a lukewarm reception to the news that Enterprise Oil and Lasmo are in merger talks. Pierre Jungels, chief executive of Enterprise, said that share-holders had not responded positively to the news.

Shares of Lasmo gained 12 per cent to 1061/2p yesterday on speculation that Enterprise would offer a premium to seal a deal. in turn, Enterprise shares lost 9p to 278p. Some analvsts said the savings from combining the two companies would be minimal. Instead, the City is hoping that a bid will come from a third party with Agip, Elf and Statoil mentioned alongside smaller

US integrated companies. Mark lanotti, of Credit Suisse First Boston, said: I think the chances are high of a cash bidder coming in. There is less than a 50 per cent chance of these companies merging."

its chief executive, should be

January sale fails to lift

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By Sarah Cunningham RETAIL CORRESPONDENT

Reed

Austin

AUSTIN REED, the cloth-ing retailer, issued a profits warning yesterday after its January sale fell flat.

The company said that after a dismal run-up to Christmas, the anticipated rush of customers to its sale had failed to materialise. Colin Evans, chairman said: "There has been too much discounting through the season and the bi-aumial sales have much less im-

pact." The company brought forward its final discounts to try to clear stock before the new season. Mr Evans said that levels were now under control and margins have been

Like for like sales for the half year to January 31 are likely to be 12 per cent be-low last year. Austin Reed said. The sale period taken alone fared even worse. Interim pre-tax profit is expected to be between £6 million and £6.5 million, the company said, compared with forecasts of nearer E9

Austin Reed also announced that it is closing a shirt factory in Ireland's Co Donegal, with the loss of 136 jobs. Wm Morrison, the super-

markets group based in Yorkshire, said that like for-like sales in the five weeks to January 3 were 3.4 per cent higher, boosting its own shares by 10%p to 297p and lifting the whole food retail sector.

Elsewhere, Ottakar's, the booksellers, said like-forlike sales in the six weeks to January 2 were 6.3 per cent higher, while Majestic Wine saw its like-for-like sales up 2.7 per cent in the nine weeks to January 4. Merchant Retail Group. which owns the Perfume Shop and Joplings department stores, saw like-forlike sales up 6.2 per cent in the five weeks to January 2



IUUacco micigei wiii cost thousands of jobs

BY ROBERT COLE, CITY CORRESPONDENT

THOUSANDS of jobs are likely to be lost worldwide as a result of the £15 billion merger of tigarette giants British American Tobacco and Rothmans Internation

BAT admitted yesterday that jobs would be cut, but refused to be drawn on where the axe would fall. Together the two employ 70,000 people around the world, and about 5,500 in the UK.

Despite its name BAT nei ther produces nor sells cigarettes in the UK. Rothmans. has production facilities and 1,200 jobs in the Prime Minister's constituency in Co Durham, which may be hit. Rothmans also employs people at Southampton. Head office:

personnel from both compames are also likely to be at

Martin Broughton, chief ex-ecutive of BAT, said there would be annual cost savings of £250 million. The deal would also enhance earnings in the year to December 2000. but give rise to £400 million of one off charges.

BAT shares jumped 15 per cent to 625p. Since Occober 1997, when the company revealed plans to demerge its financial services businesses, shareholders - who now hold shares in the separately quoted compa-nies BAT and Allied Zurich have seen the value of their in-

vestments rise 46 per cent. The Rothmans merger is BAT's opening share price yesterday the value of Rothmans was £4.6 billion and the worth of the combined business £13 billion. However, because of the rise in the BAT share price Rothmans' value rose to £5.3 billion by the close and the combination to near-

The link with Rothmans confounds speculation that BAT was looking to combine with Reynolds, the US tobacco firm owned by RJR Nabisco.

The Rothmans deal was presented as a merger but most observers see it as a takeover by BAT of Rothmans. The name of the business will remain BAT, and the senior board positions will remain unchanged. Rothmans is owned by Rich-

emont, the luxury goods group Rembrandt, a South African combine. Both are controlled by the South African Rupert family. They will own 35 per cent of the enlarged BAT. However, its voting rights are to be restricted to 25 per cent. Johann Rupert, Richemeont

chief executive, said that BAT had offered to pay cash in-stead of issuing shares. But Richemont and Rembrandt were keen to maintain the fullest exposure to the ongoing business. They also said that they intended to be "longterm, supportive investors".

Mr Rupert said: "The long-term interests of the Rothmans Group are best served

co business which will have enhanced market positions and greater scale of operations." BAT is already the world's third-largest cigarette seller. The acquisition of Rothmans will take it closer to Philip Morris, however. The state-owned Chinese tobacco company is

the world's biggest producer.
Competition issues in various parts of the world means BAT may have to sell off parts of the business. The combined group will have 90 per cent of the South African market, 60 per cent in Australia and 80 per cent of Canada. The deal will also be inspected by European competition

Commentary, page 27 ginning to fall.

Shareholders urge Mirror deal

Post Office attacked for secrecy

THE Post Office and the Gov- fice reserves, money borrowed crecy over the first big overseas postal purchase — thought to be worth up to £375 million.

approved by the Government INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT SEVERAL WEEKS ago. The purchase will be funded by Post Ofernment were attacked for se- commercially and money hor to the taxpayer?" rowed from the Government. Neither the Government nor the Post Office would say what

dustry Secretary, said: "Why won't they tell us how much it is costing, how much public money is in there and the risk

A spokesman for UPS, the postal and parcel service, said: We were promised effective reg-The Post Office confirmed its purchase of German Parcel; ing from where because of company, in a deal that was

John Roberts, chief executive of the Post Office, said Peter Mandelson, the former Trade and Industry Secretary, had been told of the German talks in the autumni. Mr Mandelson gave the Post Office greater commercial freedom last month but he would not detail

the extent of the freedom.

Commentary, page 27 ty is the best option for the com-

BY RAYMOND SNODDY MEDIA EDITOR

LARGE shareholders of Mirror Group believe merger talks with Trinity, the regional newspaper group, should resume as soon as possible. Phillips & Drew, the largest Mirror shareholder with 22 per cent, says a deal with Trini-

pany, publisher of The Mirror, Sunday Mirror, The People and Scotland's Daily Record. P&D yesterday made it clear it would be unhappy if corporate "cultural differences" were to stand in the way of

a deal. On Sunday, Trinity said it had withdrawn from talks with immediate effect. The Mirror board issued a statement to staff that said the

rationale for talks with Trinity was based on replicating the integration of Mirror Group and Midland Independent Newspapers on a larger scale.
Trinity, the largest UK regional newspaper group, is ready to accept Sir Victor Blank, Mirror Group chairman, a non-group chair, man, as non-executive chair-

chief executive. David Montgomery. Mirror Group chief executive, would stand down once integration of the two companies was complete. Mirror shares rose 4p yesterday to year's peak of 248p. Trinity shares fell 1/2p to 428/2p. man of the enlarged group but would insist that Philip Graf,

Tempus, page 28



Yes, yes, yes! 4.99% (5.1% APR) for 2 years.

John Charcol, on European - style mortgage rates.

85% of property value I redemption penalties 5% of the loan amount before 50%-2001 then one months interest I maximum loan £200,000 I a fee of £5.40. Call now for your nearest branch. JOHN CHARCOL Talk about a better mortgage.

We say wes to low European mortgage levels with this remarkable 2-year fixed rate mortgage. There is compalsory buildings insurance - but no penalty that extends beyond 50/4/2001. We believe you'll find this product hard to beat, so cut along to your nearest branch now. The details: 1 4.99% (5.1% APR) fixed to 50/4/2001 I available for purchases and remortgages to

Beggd on a \$50,000 interest only manage on a property valued at \$100,000 repelld over 25 years, 300 gross monthly represents of \$249.50 at 4.99% \$1% APRI. Total charge for credit \$75,606.88. Total amount payable gross \$135,606.88 calculated to include a lender's arrangement tee of \$295, a valuation fee of \$205, \$45, \$25,000 interest only manage on a property valued at \$100,000 repelld over 25 years and assumes the interest rate will remain at 4.99% \$1% APRI for the remainder of the loan, in practice this rate may differ from that assumed. After the fixed state has expired, APR may vary. Total amount payable excludes any respective from that assumed an appropriate secured on property, instances may be equired. Loads subject to status, type and value of property. Under the fixed funds are reliable. John Charcol Engineering fund, the remainder of the loan, in practice this rate may differ from that assumed. After the fixed are has expired, APR may vary. Total amount payable excludes any respective from that assumed. After the fixed state has expired, APR may vary. Total amount payable excludes any respective from that assumed. After the fixed state has expired, APR may vary. Total amount payable excludes any respective from that assumed. After the fixed state has expired, APR may vary. Total amount payable excludes any respective from that assumed. After the fixed state has expired, APR may vary. Total amount payable excludes any respective from that assumed. After the fixed state has expired, APR may vary. Total amount payable excludes any respective from that assumed. After the fixed state has expired, APR may vary. Total amount payable excludes any respective from that assumed. After the fixed state has expired, APR may vary. Total amount payable excludes any respective from that assumed. After the fixed state has expired, APR may vary. Total amount payable excludes any respective from that assumed. After the fixed state has expired from that assumed. After the fixed state has expired. APR may vary. Total amoun

Court is cleared in Microsoft hearing

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

SECRET Microsoft pricing data was yesterday presented as evidence of the software company's monopoly power in the historic anti-trust trial.

The court was ordered into closed session when the Justice Department lawyers revealed that they had subpoenaed contracts and wholesale pricing information that shows Microsoft can freely raise the price of Windows, the operating system used on 90 per cent of the world's personal computers.

Property

group gets

funding

Development Securities,

the property group, yester-

day announced the comple-

tion of a package of funding totalling £125 million.

The medium-term debt fi-

nancing programme in-cludes £75 million from

two new five to seven-year

revolving bank facilities with HSBC Midland and

Barclays. The company will use the additional

bank facilities for portfolio

ICI Estates has completed

the sale of four landhold-

ings to Redrow Group, the

housebuilder and commer-

cial developer. The deal has realised £14.5 million

in cash with additional

payments of up to another £20 million dependent on

planning consents. The sites include an area to the

east of the M49 at Severn-

side and land in Harro-

gate that is the subject of proposals for retail devel-

Dairy Crest buy

Dairy Crest Group, the

dairy food company, has bought Longs Dairies for £4 million in cash. The company said that Longs, which is based in Great

Yarmouth, would strength-

en its position as the lead-

ing supplier of milk to

doorstep and retail custom-

ers in East Anglia. Longs

Dairies had a turnover last

Denmans ahead

Denmans Electrical, a sup-

plier of lighting products,

reported pre-tax profits up 17 per cent to £4.03 million

for the year ended Septem-

ber 30. Earnings per share

were 15.12p, from 13.66p

last time. The recommend-

ed final dividend of 2.5p

Clubhaus, a European goif

course owner-operator, has bought Tutzing Golf Course in Munich, Germa-ny, for DM6.0 million

(£2.2 million). It brings its total number of golf facilities to 19, four of which are

Hacas advances

Hacas, the property consul-

increase of 8 per cent.

Clubhaus deal

year of £10.8 million

ICI land sale

acquisitions,

Microsoft had insisted the court be cleared before the evidence was almost unsaleable in today's market. A computer without Windows is kept the retail price constant while say that the Justice Department has presented a convincing case. heard because of its sensitive nature. The records were seized last autumn. According to insiders, government lawyers compared the price at which Delí and Compaq, two companies close to Microsoft, buy Windows with the price paid by IBM and Gate-

The bulk of Windows sales are directly to manufacturers who are contractually obliged to pay Microsoft a licence fee for every computer sold that is loaded with the operating sys-

The pricing data, the last evidence to be presented by the Justice Department before Microsoft presents its witnesses, could be a vital building block in the anti-trust case.

One of the economic definitions of a monopoly is that the company in question can raise prices without losing market share. The Justice Department has previously declared that relative to other software products Windows' retail price has gone up in recent years. Microsoft replied that it

But the different prices offered to manufacturers are seen as clear evidence that Microsoft uses the power of Windows to force companies into alliances that help it to dominate oth-

The Justice Department argued Dell and Compaq "earned" the lower prices by promoting other Microsoft products. The regulators are trying to prove that Microsoft is acting like a predator and needs to be restrained. Halfway through the trial; observers

The Consumer Federation of Ameri-

ca vesterday claimed that Microsoft has overcharged customers worldwide by \$10 billion (£6 billion) in recent years. Mark Cooper, the CFA research director, said: "Microsoft is keeping prices high while costs are going down."

Microsoft denied the charges and

said it offered consumers a good deal. The cost of an average PC is increased by about \$50 if loaded with Windows, A Windows 98 upgrade costs about \$90 in the shops.

Volvo confirms talks with Fiat

VOLVO yesterday confirmed that it was in talks with First after Giovanni Agnelli, chairman of the Italian carmaker, admitted that discussions had taken place between the two companies. Volvo shares plunged, however, slipping 5 per cent as the Swedish company insisted that the companies were not close to a deal.

Volvo is under pressure to find a partner among the larger manufacturers to reduce the cost of launching new models. Analysis have speculated that Ford would be a better big brother than Fiat as the former makes large cars and could share engines and drive systems. It would also give Volvo better access to the US market where it has less than one per cent of car sales. Other industry experts say Fiat and Volvo would complement each other, much as would have been the case if the once-planned alliance with Renault had been realised. The Renault-Volvo plan collapsed in 1993.

New chief at Nissan UK

NISSAN UK, whose Sunderland plant is Europe's most productive car manufacturer, has appointed a new managing director. John Cushnaghan has been promoted from deputy managing director at Sunderland. The running of Sunder-land has been relinquished by Sir Ian Gibson, who is overseeing Nissan's European strategy. Sir Ian, who was knighted in this New Year Honours for services to the car manufacturing industry, had been doing several jobs for some time. He has also ceased to run Nissan's plant in Barcelona.

Lewis raises funds

HENRY LEWIS, founder and chairman of Action Computer Services, has raised £202,000 by selling almost half of his stake in Electronics Boutique. Mr Lewis, a non-executive director of the computer games retailer, said the disposal was for "personal and family reasons". He retains a £280,000 stake in Electronics Boutique, which returned an upbeat trad-ing statement last week. Mr Lewis holds an 8.8 per cent stake in Action Computer Services, worth £6.1 million. He also sits on the board of Oasis, the fashion retailer.

E*Trade Group loss

E*TRADE GROUP, the American online discount broker, reported a 63 per cent rise in revenues in the first quarter as it added 132,000 customer accounts. The company also reported a net loss of \$13.2 million (£8 million) for the quarter, below Wall Street forecasts. The company, which reported a net profit of \$5.1 million in the first quarter of the previous year, said acrive customer accounts forecasts. said active customer accounts increased 55 per cent during the fourth quarter, to 676,000 as of the end of December.

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Field in takeover talks

SHARES of Field Group rose 55p to 2814:p after the specialist packaging business said it was in talks that could lead to a takeover bid being made. Field is valued at about £170 million at yesterday's closing price. The company's shares have fallen over the past 12 months in reaction to a decline in first-balf profits and a warning on trading. Fields main attraction is its strength in European pharmaceuticals; however, its exposure to drinks and tobacco was blamed for the decline in profits.

Zochonis warning

PATERSON ZOCHONIS, a household products manufacturer, said that it expects profits for the year to May 31, 1999, will be significantly down on the pre-tax figure of £32.7 million it reported last year. The company blamed adverse economic and trading conditions in China, Eastern Europe and Nigeria. Exceptional provisions of £6.3 million will be made. Zochonissaid it expects an unchanged interim dividend, due February 16, of 5.85p a share for the six months to November 30, 1998.

Inn Business expands

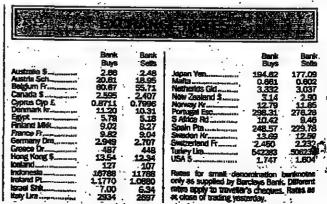
INN BUSINESS, the pub group, is to boost its 470-strong tenanted estate by acquiring Scorpio inns, which operates 111 tenancies in the West of England and Wales. The company yesterday paid E500,000 for a 25.2 per cent stake in Scorpio and has an option to buy out the remainder before July next year for a maximum of £2.75 million plus working capital. If Scorpio fails to meet targets its shareholders will buy back the stake at par. Inn Business is also to dispose of its nine remaining unbranded managed houses.

Central bankers meet

ALAN GREENSPAN, chairman of the US Federal Reserve. told central bankers meeting in Hong Kong that there were prospects for an easing in American economic growth, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) said yesterday. Andrew Crockett, general manager of BIS, said Mr Greenspan told the 17 central bankers that growth would ease but would be satisfactory. Mr Crockett said central bankers at the meeting believed the global economic environment was "reasonably positive".

Meridien for Taiwan

GRANADA'S Méridien Hotels chain will enter the Taiwanese market this week by taking over the Gloria Hotel in Taipei un-der a management contract. The four-star, 226-room hotel owned by Tien-Kuei Chen, a local businessman, will undergo a \$3 million-plus (FZ1 million) refurbishment. Le Méridien Gloria Taipei, as it will be rebranded, will be the chain's 104th botel. Bernard Lambert, managing director, said: "It moves us closer, to our target of 200 Meridien hotels in the next five years."



French launch £680m bid for English China Clays

By Carl, Mortished INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EDITOR

IMETAL, the French conglomerate, swooped on English China Clays yesterday, with a £680 million cash offer for the industrial minerals company. The French bidder is at-

tempting to bypass the ECC management with its 225p per share offer after it failed to get a decision from the ECC board after a meeting last week. ECC quickly rejected the of-

fer yesterday, saying it "fails by a wide margin to reflect the value of the company's busiRediker, chief executive, said the company needed time to evaluate the offer. "They attempted to hold a gun to our heads and demanded a response in 48 hours."

News of the bid caused ECC's lacklustre shares to spring into action, rising 51 per cent to 242p. Shares in the British company, which processes minerals used in the paper and water treatment industries, have suffered from pricing pressure in kaolin and an expensive diversification into chemicals. Analysts said that the share

price was reflecting the expec-

tation that Imetal would have to pay more to secure a board recommendation. However, a rival bid is thought unlikely and Imetal might have trouble increasing its cash bid which will send its gearing ratio to 120 per cent. Imetal is quoted in Paris

Desmarais, chairman of Canada's Power Corporation, and Frere Group, the Belgian company that controls the interests of Baron Albert Frère. Imetal has a kaolin business but is also involved in metal processing and building materials. Patrick Kron, Imetal's chief

and controlled jointly by Paul

executive, lost no time in pouring scorn on ECC's record. He pointed to a 40 per cent negative shareholder return from ECC since January 1995, a peri-od in which the return from the All-share index had doubled in value.

M Kron said that ECC had missed opportunities in its core white pigments business by failing to acquire a stake in the new Brazilian reserves and had failed to exploit its technology in precipitate calcium carbonate. He said: "They have boxed themselves into a corner."

Mr Rediker responded: "If there is a box, it would seem

The kaolin price has been under pressure for the past two years as vast new reserves in Brazil came on stream. It has also been affected by the substitution of calcium carbonate for kaolin by papermakers. Imetal has an interest in the Brazilian kaolin reserves.

M Kron criticised ECC for its acquistion of Calgon, "We don't see the impact of synergies," He said ECC had failed to participate in the industry consolidation in specialty chemicals.

Tempus, page 28

Courtaulds issues profits warning By Sarah Cunningham. COURTAULDS TEXTILES,

one of Marks & Spencer's large suppliers, yesterday became the latest in a string of manufacturers to issue a profits warning, blaming weak de-mand from its UK customers.

The shares fell 130 to 1600 as the company vowed to increase its production in countries with cheaper labour and infrastructure costs as part of its effort to resume profit

The company, which bought Claremont Garments - another of Marks & Spencer's largest clothing suppliers
- in October for £10 million, said pre-tax profits would be £36 million, about £2.5 million

Courtaulds Textiles said that the international side of its business had generally performed well and helped to offset the weak UK auturan/winter sales. The French tights and lingerie businesses enjoyed good trade, but demand for European lace was "fragile", it said. Sales of stretch fabrics to Asia and the

US were good. Despite the difficult UK market, the company said it had ended the autumn/winter season with its stocks in line with targets. It also said that it was starting 1999 with full produc-

tion schedules. The company, which is an-nouncing its preliminary results on March 11, said that the restructuring of Clare-mont, where 1,125 staff have been made redundant, should "quickly restore profitability".

EdF's electricity bid tor, which transports power be-THE Government is urging BRITAIN and the US are to which ranks as Europe's most lucrative landfall for transatlan-

SHARES of Triad, the information technology group, fell 40p to 527½p yesterday on worries over the nature of its trading. Triad, whose chief executive is Mira Makar, above, lifted pre-tax profits to £3.8 million for the six months ended September 30, up from £2.9 million last time. Earnings per share were 10.3p (7.5p) and an interim dividend of 3p was offered (2p).

the European Commission to let UK competition authorities vet the £1.9 billion takeover bid for London Electricity by Electricité de France.
The Department of Trade and Industry said its request re-

tancy, yesterday an-nounced a pre-tax profit of £640.407 for the year endlates to concerns it has in relation to the merger, which was announced on December 4. ed September 30, up from £511.000 last year. The resuits are the company's If the takeover is allowed it first since it reversed into will return London to state control as EdF is owned by the AIM-listed General Industries in July 1998. No divi-dend was offered. French Government, EdFeffectively controls the interconnec-

tween Britain and France, because its cheap exports ensure effective one-way traffic.

The UK Government is likely to press for contracts to be renegotiated to boost the British DOWET market.

The DTI wants the bid to be considered under the UK's Fair Trading Act. European rules apply when two member countries are involved in crossborder deals but the EU has allowed the UK to impose condi-tions in water industry bids.

DTI calls for role in UK resumes aviation talks with America

BY OUR CITY STAFF

make another attempt at liberalising their aviation market, with the resumption of trade talks next month, it was announced yesterday.
The first talks in 20 months

were held in London last October, only to break up over US complaints of British Intransigence, and delay further the proposed alliance between British Airways and American Airlines. The main issue still centres on

Under the Bermuda II aviation agreement, only four airlines can operate transatlantic services out of Heathrow -BA, American Airlines, Virgin Atlantic and United Airlines.

The US says it needs an "open skies" trade agreement with Britgredient to an open skies deal.

tic carriers because of its busi-

ain before the BA-American alliance can be approved. Britain how to gain access to the con-gested runways of Heathrow, says approval is an essential in-

tion lost more than 10 per cent of their value yesterday as the London casino operator gave warning that the oil price fall was keeping Middle Eastern

punters away. Its shares shed 7p to 59½p as it forecast that 1998 operating profits would be just £8 million compared with £17.6 million the year before. Analysts are predicting that interest charges will restrict profits at the pre-tax level to just £5.5

The scarcity of Middle East-

ern punters is a blow given that Capital was already suf-fering from a lack of Asian high-rollers, who have been hit by the region's economic crisis. In a trading statement,

fading. It is more than four months since Capital admitted that it had received a number of approaches, but yesterday it said: "These talks have not yet led to formal or indicative of-

to take advantage of any upturn in high-roller activity".

AIRBUS Industrie reported record sales figures yesterday but remained tight-lipped

Airbus, owned by Aerospa-

cornered 45 per cent of the market for planes with more than 100 seats. Market share figures are a traditional bone

Capital hit as oil price keeps high-rollers away By DOMINIC WALSH

it said: 'The London gaming market remains depressed, with the level of high-roller play substantially reduced."

Hopes of a takeover are also

fers at a level that the board could recommend and it remains unclear whether such offers will be forthcoming." Capital, which runs Crock-

fords, the Colony Club and the Cromwell Mint, has also been hit by last year's punitive rise in gaming duty which has add-ed £2.5 million to its annual tax bill. However, it said the resilience of its business at the middle and lower end of the market allied to tighter cost controls had left it "well placed

Airbus silent on shake-up as record sales achieved

BY ADAM JONES

about a massive restructuring currently being discussed by its four partners.

tiale of France, Dasa of Germany, British Aerospace and Casa of Spain, took firm orders for 556 planes worth \$39 billion (£24 billion) in 1998 — a year that may prove to be a peak in the aerospace industry cycle. Airbus, which had previous-ly had only 460 orders in its

best year, claimed that it had

of contention between Airbus and Boeing, its US rival. Boeing objects to the Airbus practice of counting market share by the number of orders

rather than their value. The latter would favour the bigger planes sold by Boeing, al-though Airbus is developing larger aircraft that will redress the halance.

An Airbus spokesman re-fused to specify when the

planemaker's transformation into a more conventional company is expected to take place, beyond saying it would hap-pen this year. Airbus, as a con-sortium. does not publish overall accounts.

The Asian economic crisis led to the cancellation of 14 orders for single-aisle aircraft.
All were reallocated to other
airlines and Airbus says the
market potential in Asia is
still attractive. The spokesman would not say if Airbus
expected global orders to drop
this year.

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Swiss kick off £20m CPG bid

BY CHRIS AYRES

THE Swiss company that controls the marketing rights to football's World Cup yesterday launched a £20 million takeover bid for Britain's Copyright Promotions Group (CPG), which represents the rights to film and television creations

such as Star Wars and The Simpsons. ISMM's 130p-a-share cash bid — which has been recommended by CPG's board — values CPG at a 21 per cent premium to its closing share price on Friday. Shares in the company rose 20p yesterday to 127/sp.

If the deal goes ahead, it will create one of the largest sports and entertainment licensing companies in the world, ISMM specialises in exploiting the rights to sporting competitions; while CPG's speciality is film and television. The board of CPG are expected to stay with the merged

As well as controlling the rights to the World Cup until 2006, ISMM represents the rights to the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) and the International Amateur Athletic Federation

David Cardwell, CPG's chief executive, said: "We are delighted at the prospect of joining forces with ISMM. In pooling our extensive resources, we believe that CPG and ISMM in tandem will represent a leading independent sports licensing oper-ation, with expertise and a significant presence in key world markets."

CPG yesterday reported a sevenfold rise in pre-tax profits to £427,000 for the sig-months to October 31, and an 18 per cenrise in sales to £10.7 million. Earnings per share rose threefold to 1.81p. No dividend

SHARES in Capital Corpora-

Johann Rupert happily lit up a cigarette to celebrate the announcement of his deal with BAT yesterday. Whatever the weed may be doing to his health, it has been the makings of the Purpert family fortunes and of the Rupert family fortunes and he clearly believes it can continue to be so. Far from stubbing out their interest in the tobacco business, the Ruperts will be holding on to a 35 per cent interest in the

enlarged company.
The stock market shares their assessment of the opportunities for the combined businesses, sending BAT shares skywards as the deal was announced. Its emergence as a neat fait accomp-li was in sharp, and impressive, contrast to the leaked news that Enterprise Oil and Lasmo are trying to effect a lialson, an admis-sion which will presage a period of increased uncertainty for both companies. But the BAT deal has the benefit of being made from a

position of relative strength.

Martin Broughton is not messing around trying to concoct an artificial merger for appearance sake. BAT is taking over Rothmans International, and rather than duck and dive to try to avoid the worst attacks of acquisition accounting is taking them. tion accounting is taking them on the chin. The BAT board suspects that investors will be grown up enough to shrug off the apparent horror of having to amortise goodwill estimated at an astronomical £5 billion and in-

A happy Rupert goes into BAT

benefits to come from the deal. So confident was the company that this deal was the right one to do that it did not bother with the increasingly common pre-mar-keting round of major sharehold-ers, aimed at softening them up for the excitement to come.

Investors have reason to trust Mr Broughton's judgment. Rarely has a demerger increased shareholder value as rapidly as the splitting of BAT into its two component parts. Tobacco might be rather less fashionable than financial services but Mr Broughton was bravely deter-Broughton was bravely determined to blow the smoke away and have a business clearly focused on Sir Walter Raleigh's legacy. He knows that while the West may be cutting back on cigarettes, the world is a big place. Even in these difficult economic times, cigarettes are winning new addicts in the far-fitung spots that BAT supplies. With the Rothmans brands, BAT will be able to hold on to these customers as they trade up and puff on higherthey trade up and puff on higher-margin products:

Mr Rupert might not have been so keen to hitch his fortunes to BAT this time last year but the major settlement in the drawn-out US litigation has altered the



COMMENTARY by our City Editor

ويحذامن الأمل

picture drastically. A charge of about \$750 million is nasty but

There will be regulatory hurdles ahead but they are not insurmountable: the over-powering presence of Phillip Morris provides a useful counter to most accusations of BAT having too great a market share. Deputy chairman. Kenneth Clarke, should be confident enough to en-joy a celebratory puff on a cigar.

Corzine takes the rap at Goldman

Seeing the prospect of huge windfall gams being snatched away from under their noses tends not to bring out the best in people, even million-aire investment bankers. So it was that some of the heavily remunerated partners of Goldman Sachs were not in the best of huplanned flotation of the firm was

any business but particularly so for an investment bank. Never aborted. There were suggestions that unkind things were being said behind the back of chief execmind what the clients think, the utive Jon Corzine about his unibes from competitors do get you seemly handling of the affair. And if there was ever any doubt that Mr Corzine was being blamed, then yesterday's news should have dispelled it. For he is

The demeanour of those who had seen their paper wealth sour as high as \$50 million but then sink back into a potential never land was hardly improved when the market shudder which had scared Goldman into dropping the float was rapidly reversed. Where might Goldman's share rating be now had it only been brave enough to push ahead with its plans?

Goldman's own investment guru, Abby Cohen, had been un-tincipingly bullish about the market. She has now been rewarded with a partnership but, had the firm had more faith in her forecasting, her fellow partners might be enjoying the benefits now, with Wall Street teetering at record levels.

The apparent bungling of its own flotation is damaging for

SEC fines

Wall Street

firms \$26m

By A CORRESPONDENT THE Securities & Exchange

Commission fined 28 Wall Street firms more than \$26

million (almost £16 million) and suspended 51 traders,

bringing an end to a five-year-old legal battle.

The deal with the broker-age houses closes the Gov-

among other things, failing

to provide the best prices for

stocks traded on the Nasdaq

market and failing to hon-

layed trade reports and failed

to honour quoted prices.

Hardest hit by the SEC was PaineWebber, the retail

brokerage. It was ordered to

pay \$6.7 million in civil pen-alties and any illegal profits.

purgatory, John Thornton is the man in the ascendant. He had never favoured flotation, which would inevitably change the unique nature of the bank. For that judgment, his partners are clearly prepared to forgive him the little matter of his chairman-ship of Laura Ashley.

Lips sealed with DTI fudge

o much for government accountability.

The Post Office bought a German business yesterday us-ing taxpayers' money. We don't know how much because neither the organisation nor the Department of Trade and Industry will say. But they gleefully boast that they will be doing this again as the Post Office embarks on an in-

ternational spending spree.

The secrecy with which public money is being spent is the first demonstration of the fudge that comes to its senses, he cannot restore all the glamour which, rightly or wrongly, rubbed off the firm last autumn. The early is government policy on the Post Office's future. Peter Mandelson, valuations of around \$30 billion may have been unsustainable but now the figure is seen as closer to \$20 billion and that boils then Trade and Industry Secretary, doomed the Post Office to muddle last month when he said down to a significant loss for eveit should have greater commer-cial freedom but be kept in public ry Goldman parmer.
With Mr Cornine consigned to

ownership. We have no idea of the spending limits that the Post Office will be bound by, despite it having executed its first deal.

Government money for commercial enterprise is not new: the DTI gives launch aid for developments — such as Rolls-Royce's new engine family — at competitive rates and in long-term ar-rangements which would not be available from a bank. But the secrecy is new — launch aid is put in the public domain, as it should

The veil over the Post Office's international aspirations is compounded by the fact that we are not even to know how much the whole deal costs, let alone the tax-

payers' contribution.

And this from a Government that has piedged transparent reg-ulation of the Post Office.

Uncomfortable Reid

SIR Bob Reid and his team at Sears are struggling to conclude details of the sale of the group's credit card business so that there will be some good news to allevi-ate the bad in tomorrow's trading statement. The real gloom is likely to be in the figures from Freemans, the catalogue retailing business which Sir Bob was prevented from off-loading to Littlewoods. The energetic Philip Green is still waiting in the wings to pounce on Sears and Sir Bob will need some imaginative

Forecasts are sliced as Tomkins edges ahead

I rade Grouph

ALL PURING

Mark Tark

TOMKINS,-the conglomerate with products ranging from car transmission belts to Hovis bread, has encountered "pro-gressively more challenging" trading prompting analysis to slice into their forecasts.

The shares, which have fallen from 340p last summer, slipped another 13p to 228%p.

Andrew Hollins, analyst at Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, has reduced his full-year profit forecast from £520 million to £490 million. This could be the first year that won't in-crease profits, he said. There are not many bits of the business that are going to be better second half than first."

First-half pre-tax profits came in at £220.1 million, a rise of only 2.4 per cent. However, even this improvement is after setting aside the £40 million provision for the loss that Tomkins will make on four Spillers flour mills that the De-partment of Trade and Industry has forced it to sell.

The group's industrial and automotive engineering division, centred on Gates; has seen sales to agricultural, heavy construction and other industrial customers "fall away". Operating profits, which

Warning

as RCO

advances

The company has now

established itself in the

NHS Private Finance Initi-

ative market with the signing of the Calderdale con-

tract to develop Halifax

The group showed a pre-tax profit of £1.8 million for the year to October 2.

against a profit of £1.2 mil-

tion for the 53-week period

in 1997, on a furnover of

£57.6 million (£55.6 mil-

lion). Earnings were 11.64p a share (7.73p) and a final dividend of op brings the year's total to 10p (16p). Logica bank deal Logica, the computer con-

sultancy, will today an-nounce a £4 million con-

tract with Barclays Bank to

provide systems support for its PC online banking servic-es. Logica will provide serv-

ices including production, test and development as well as operation of the live system and help-desk servic-

es. It has also secured a £2.9 million contract to Radio

Mobil, a Czech mobile

BAA shares dip

Shares of BAA fell 4p to

714p yesterday even though the privatised airport opera-tor confirmed it is consider-

ing demerging its Lynton property subsidiary. If the

proposal is approved, BAA will list it on the stock mar-

ket as a company worth more than £500 million.

phone company.

General Hospital



Slow progress: Greg Hutchings could see Tomkins full-year profits stand still or even decline

rose 8.8 per cent to E77.8 million, were also held back by losses in automotive hose manutacturing in Europe and by departs demand in Asia. The food division improved

million, helped by strong growth in sales to McDonald's and by the recent "excellent" acquisitions of Le Pain Croustillant and Martine Specialités, which make frozen lysts worry that the division. will struggle to maintain profit margins at 7.4 per cent if con-

sumers "trade down" to cheaner bread because of recession. 'Construction components increased profits 5 per cent to-

£64.9 million on reduced turno-The food division improved ver. US sales are growing, but profits by 14.6 per cent to £71.4 the UK and South African businesses face rough conditions. Smith & Wesson, the handgun firm that earned Tomkins its "buns to guns" tag, looks in-creasingly likely to be sold afcline" in sales and profitability. Tomkins is reviewing the future of its professional, gar-den and leisure products divi-

sion, which represents only 3 per cent of group sales. Greg Hutchings, chairman, said the company will announce its decision in July.

Mr Hutchings said Tom-

kins regularly reviews the possibility of moving to the US to try to improve the rating of its out-of-favour shares, but such a move was "not yet" suitable. Tomkins has £500 million or so for add-on acquisitions. The interim dividend rises 14.3

Fyffes unveils £400m acquisition war chest

RCO Holdings, the sup-port services group, yester-day called 1998 a "water-FYFFES has revealed it has a shed year" but gave warn-£400 million war chest that it ing that employment legis-lation and economic down intends to use purchasing smaller rivals across Europe turn would "create a de-gree of uncertainty in the and to complete a large acquisition by the end of the year. rate of growth and margin

The fruit and vegetable im-porter, which distributes one in every five bananas sold in the UK, said it intends to command similar market shares in potatoes and other fruit. Carl McCann, deputy chair-man, whose brother, David, is chief executive, said the compa-

ny had no debt and £43 mil-lion sitting in the bank. He said: "Deal, deal, deal that's the idea. We'd like to do more deals and the bigger the



David McCann, left with Frank Gernon, finance director

better. The cash is there and with interest rates going down, the return is no good unless you can turn it into deals."

Last month, Fyffes agreed to acquire a 50 per cent stake in rival Capespan International for £51 million and a 10 per cent stake in its parent company which markets the Cape and Outspan labels. Based in the Republic of Ire-

land, Fyffes returned its results in euros — becoming the first London-listed company to do so. Its pre-tax profits rose by an expected 15 per cent to €78.9 million (£55.7 million) for the year to October 31. Earnings rose 21 per cent to 16.2 cents per share.

It is again taking advantage of Irish tex breaks on divi-dends to lift the payout 25 per cent to 2.71 cents per share, making a total of 3.58 cents, up

Tempus page 28

Mild weather prompts warning from Kwik-Fit

By Fraser Nelson

KWIK-FIT has issued its first profits warning for six years, blaming a mild winter for allowing motorists to survive December without needing new tyres or car batteries.

The company, Britain's largest service station network with 850 outlets, said its winter "seasonal uplift" had not appeared — "perhaps due to

The shares lost 14 per cent of their value yesterday, as bro-kers prepared for the down-

turn to continue into January and February. Graeme Bissett, who be-

came finance director three months ago, said that much of the lost business should be recaptured later in the

He said: Bad weather normally focuses people's minds to replace tyres and batteries sooner rather than later. But we are not a discretionary purchase, so we have some degree

The ten months before December had been strong, he said, with an overall increase in the number of cars serviced. months are usually the most Analysts who were expecting

pre-tax profit of £62 million for the year to February 28 are now forecasting [57 million. The shares closed 734p down at 462p - their sharpest

one-day fall since Kwik-Fit's last profits warning in 1992.

Pace moves into the black after year of turmoil

PACE Micro Technology, the manufacturer of set-top boxes for digital television broadcasters, yesterday said it had moved back into the black during the six months to November 28 after more than a

now giving up his chief executive

role to concentrate "on issues per-

taining to creating a successful public offering".

Few would envy him the task, although the rewards of success

would clearly be great. But even if he succeeds in bringing Gold-

man to market before Wall Street

ernment's charges that the year of turmoil. firms duped customers by. The company, which yester-day admitted that its future prospects were almost entirey dependent on the successful launch of digital television our posted stock quotes.

The SEC found that the firms, through their market-makers, intentionally deservices throughout the world, reported profits of £8.3 million, compared with losses

of £123 million. Sales rose to nearly £100 million, up from £87 million, and earnings per share climbed to 2.6p, compared with losses of 5.8p.

However, Pace added that sales had been hit by economic turmoil in South America and the Far East, and that it could be "difficult to sustain" its improved 26 per cent margins. Shares in the company fell 2p to 91.5p, compared with a low of 25.5p last year and a high of 241.5p after its flotation in 1996. Pace manufactures set-top

boxes for Britain's first two digital television services, Sky-Digital (run by BSkyB) and ONdigital (run by Carlton and Granada). BSkyB is 40 per cent owned by News Inter-national, owner of The Times. The company also provides

the technology for integrated digital television sets and plans to build high-speed cable modems into some of its future products.

Pace said that an interim dividend of 0.25p would be paid on April 9.

ICG helps Regal to buy rival

By DOMINIC WALSH

REGAL Hotel Group has joined forces with Interme-diate Capital Group (ICG), the mezzanine finance spe-cialist, to acquire County Hotels in a deal valuing its rival at £115.5 million. A new 50-50 joint ven-

ture company set up by Re-gal and ICG is paying £42.5 million in cash for the 25-strong chain and as-suming £73 million of debt. Regal is to lend £30 mil-lion to the joint venture and will manage County's prop-erties in return for 20 per

cent of operating profits. The three-star chain is being sold by Duke Street Capital, the venture capitalist that led its £91 million buyout from Queens Moat Houses in 1997.Regal already operates five hotels in a joint venture with ICG.

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City sets its sights on next takeover targe

target ripe for plucking has become the latest game in the Square Mile - and there are no shortage of likely candidates among second-liners.

Take Thistle Hotels. Last year the group received a bid approach when the shares were trading about the 200p level. The market anticipated an offer worth 250p a share, but the talks broke down. The price closed last night un-changed at 1174 p. The company remains vulnerable.

First Leisure also stood out with a jump of 30%p to 232p amid vague talk of a bid from Luminar. However, the rise in the Luminar share price, 221/2p to 680p, suggests that the market believes any such bid will come from other sources, possibly a venture capitalist, or

even Bass, up 111/2p to 879/4p.
Sears, the troubled high street retailer, surged 34p to 289p in the belief that Philip Green had finally raised the finance to launch an offer worth 300p a share. Others claim Sears may tempt shareholders to remain loyal by offering a payout of 130p a share.

Cordiant, the advertising agency demerged from Saatchi & Saatchi last year, surged 23%p to a high of 146p amid suggestions that a bid may be on the way from US rival True North Communications.

Grey Communications, the US advertising group, is said to be preparing to bid for Saatchi & Saatchi, up 8p to 130% p. Grey has long been interested in buying another advertising network and was an underbidder when GGT Group bought BDDP 18 months ago.

Charter has slumped from nearly 800p in the past year. It rallied 13p to 3SOp yesterday with traders talking of a bid approach soon.

Shares of Rexam, the former Bowater paper company, has seen its shares slump from 320p reflecting the downturn in the paper industry worldwide. It makes the company vulnerable to takeover. The price rose op to 188p on turnover of 3 million shares.

An early mark-up on the back of the latest flurry of corporate activity soon gave way to profit taking. Share prices both London and New York chose to consolidate profits.

The FTSE 100 index came



The union of Rothmans and British American Tobacco, up 84p to 625p, would create the world's third-largest tobacco maker

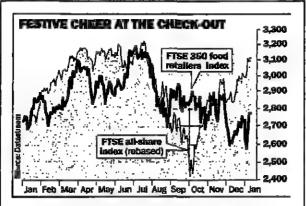
week, before moving into reverse. Down 84 points, at one stage, it closed 62.2 down at 6.085.0. Total turnover was

898 million shares.

The proposed £13 billion merger between British American Tobacco, up 84p to 625p. and Rothmans, led to hopes that bidders may emerge for Imperial Tobacco, up 7p to

high of 6,195.6, achieved last 640p. The enlarged tobacco week, before moving into rethree in the world after Philip Morris and that could spell trouble for both Imps and Gallaher, down 3p to 4054p.

A wave of speculative buy-ing chased Sinclair Healthcare 23p to 1361/sp before the company announced it had received a number of approaches that could lead to a bid.



A FEW crumbs of comfort were offered to investors by the food retailers.

William Morrison Supermarkets, up 10%p at 307%p, has reported that sales in the five weeks to January 3, were up 14.5 per cent on the previous year.

and five acquisitions, sales during the Christmas period were up 5.3 per cent with like-for-like sales in the 48 weeks to date up 3 per cent.

kers who have been fretting

COMMODITIES

Excluding five new stores This sales rundown will provide some cheer for bro-

about a sales slowdown over Christmas and the New Year.

The news from Morrison also coincided with an upbeat report on the sector from Credit Lyonnais, the broker, which has moved to "overweight".

It has raised Safeways, lkp up at 283kp, and Alldays, steady at 1844p, from "add" to "buy".

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market, Treasury 8 per cent 2021 fell 88p to £150.61, while in shorts Treasury 7 per cent Asda, down 34p at 160p. 2002 was 2p off at £107.91. is moved from "reduce" to □ NEW YORK: Blue chips sagged amid worries about the dollar. At midday the Dow "add" along with William Morrison and Somerfield, Jones industrial average was down 69.25 points to 9,574.07. 8p cheaper at 450%p.

Tokyo: Nikin Awaga
Hang Kong: Hang Seag10634.27 (-88.48)
Amsterdam: AEX index
Sydney: A02849.4 (-6.9)
Frankfurt DAX5270.80 (-122.24)
Singapore: 1543.08 (-2.10)
Brassels: 89.2035(0.30 (-33.86)
Paris: CG-404201.90 (-43.52)
Zurich: SKA Gen1504.40 (-35.80)
London: FT 3036(1,2 (-21.9)
FTSE 100
FISE Europe 100
FISE Rised Interest 157.42 (-0.12) FISE Gost Secs 115.98 (-0.07) Bargains 78423
SEAO Volume
Euro
PPX 164.4 Nov (3.0%) Jan 1987 = 100 PPX 182.0 Nov (2.5%) Jan 1987 = 100

but the directors cannot say

why. They know of no reason

cent stake in the company.

Support in a narrow market

also boosted Airtech 6%p to 29%p. Trading is said to have

picked up after a poor first half

and word is the company.

which supplies components to

the mobile phone industry,

may soon be tempted to re-

□ GILT ÉDGED: Bond pric-

es suffered a sell-off during ai-

for such a rise. But that did not

	The state of the s
stop David Crump, a director,	
buying 2,500 shares at 25p.	AM VCT 100
	Abbey Natt Dublin Inv 925 + 1
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ing over on Ofex for Easy-	THE RELEASE OF THE PARTY AND ADDRESS.
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ing systems for the futures and	Collective Assets Trust 117
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closing at 210p, its best of the	Nati Bido Mus Cv PT 105
day, a premium of 43p.	Makes I D. Halley & Buy
Keep an eye on Cortecs, up	
5p to 184p, which saw its	Piccadelly Growth Ts 97
	REXAM B (100) 96
shares slump from 1951/2p after	Singer & Frd ABM VCT 100
a boardroom bust up last year.	Willington 77's
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termoon trading as they fol- lowed the US market lower. The biggest falls were seen among longer-dated issues where losses stretched to al- most £l. In the futures pit, the March	Sinclair Mort. 1361: Cordiant Corums. 148 Copyright Proms. 1271: Planit. 38 Houstock. 343': FALLS: Stock Close Kwit-Fil. 462	+ 23 + 23's + 20 + 5's + 51	+ 203 + 193 + 184 + 184 + 174 Chng9
series of the long gilt fell 40p to £119.24 as 22,000 contracts were completed. In the cash market, Treasury 8 per cent 2021 fell £8p to £150.61, while in shorts Treasury 7 per cent 2002 was 2p off at £107.91. NEW YORK: Blue chips sagged amid worries about the dollar. At midday the Dow Jones industrial average was down 69.25 points to 9.574.07.	Capital Corpn	- 7 - 8 - 312 - 172 - 13 - 312 - 10 - 174 - 174 - 137 - 19	- 103 - 94 - 94 - 74 - 75 - 65 - 67 - 58 - 55 - 55 - 55

Take a look at the Mirror

WITH confusing leaks and spin-doctoring that would not disgrace new Labour, it would be easy for investors to throw up their hands in horror and wonder whether the question marks hanging over the future of Mirror Group will ever be resolved.

Beneath the claim and counter-claim lies a bare truth that Trinity and Mirror Group need each other. Both need to be larger and benefit from economies of scale in a media world increasingly dominated by large, international players. The strategic fit cannot be faulted and the two could create a group of national and regional newspapers, magazines and exhibitions that could at least aspire one day to look a bit like Associated Newspapers.

David Montgomery, the Mirror chief executive, has never received full credit for the way he modernised the business and extended its

reach beyond national newspapers. But the sentiment running against Mr Montognery is such that he is unlikely ever to get the recognition he deserves, and until he moves on, Mirror and the house of the latest to meander. ror shares are likely to meander.

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Moreover, Mirror shareholders furchating Phillips & Drew with 22 per cent) want the deal to be done. They have had enough of the share price underperformance and are easer to see value unlocked. It is difficult to see Mirror shares reaching the 248p scaled after And Springer expressed acquisition interest last year. But there is a good chance of growth

from 166p yesterday. It is time for the posturing to stop and for Trinity and Mirror to complete this deat. The logic demands that it is done. Such is the minmentum, in fact, that there shares could be bought for a quick turn.

ECC

ANDREW TEARE is yet to be replaced at Rank, the entertainment group from which he was unceremoniously ejected last November, But if Rank's fate is anything like that en-dured by English China Clays since Mr Teare left in 1995. shareholders should be pitied.

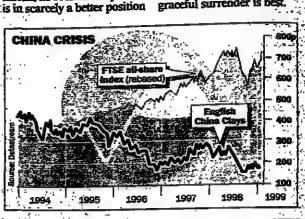
Now predominantly a supplier of whitener to the paper industry, ECC is caught in a horrible pincer. First, there is plentiful supply of both kaolin, the natural raw material, and its synthetic substitute. Secondly, the main customers for the product - paper mak-

ers - are flat on their backs. In the past five years earnings have gone nowhere. The management at ECC says it has not been given a chance to prove itself capable of building higher-margin speciality materials and chemicals businesses. The idea is to use

the cash-generating abilities of the low-margin commodity side to develop the more exciting opportunities. ECC also reckons the £680 million Imetal bid, announced yesterday, undervalues ECC's reserves

of superior quality kaolin. ECC shareholders will be forgiven for losing patience. Imetal, its French competitor,

but it is offering cash, which means ECC shareholders can exit this sad industry altogether. ECC management, which looks to have had its nose put out of joint with Imetal going public before it had chewed over a preliminary approach may yet recommend the bid. There could be more to squeeze from Imetal, but a graceful surrender is best.



Lasmo

LADEN with debt. Lasmo is in greater need of a merger partner than Enterprise Oil. its former foe. But the chances of a deal were looking slim yesterday. More probable is the intervention of a third party. A medium-sized integrated European or American oil company could top up its reserves at a cost of \$3.\$4 per barrel by buying Lasmo and taking on its debt. That compares with an average find-ing cost for US companies of \$5 per barrel via the drill bit.

Both managements recog-nise the risk. Doubtless this is the reason why they have now found beauty in one another. Nevertheless, while the arguments for doing something are more pressing than ever, a Lasmo/Enterprise merger may not provide the answer. It will take more than a quick bit of cost cut-

ting to cure the ills.

There is a a quick £20 million to be gained selling the

company Jag, and sacking a geologist or two, but this does not provide shareholders with a long-term solution. They want a more stable business, more resilient to oil price volatility and that means joining a. different league. Both Enterprise and Lasmo need to be part of a larger company with a better spread of assets. They can see beyond the current oil

Both Lasmo and Enterprise shares should continue to benefit from takeover speculation.

Tomkins -

TOMKINS has done the trendy things. It has embraced share buybacks and got itself focus. But its shares remain unloved and are now only 25p above the 203p low they hit in 1994.

This is a poor reward for years of consistent growth. Yet a change in sentiment looks unlikely when cracks are starting to appear. Pre-

tax profit growth has slowed to just 24 per cent. Tomkins has shared in the strength of the US economy, which provides half of group sales. But its industrial and automotive engineering division is being hit Construction components, a division dependent on the US housing market, is OK so far, but the scope for

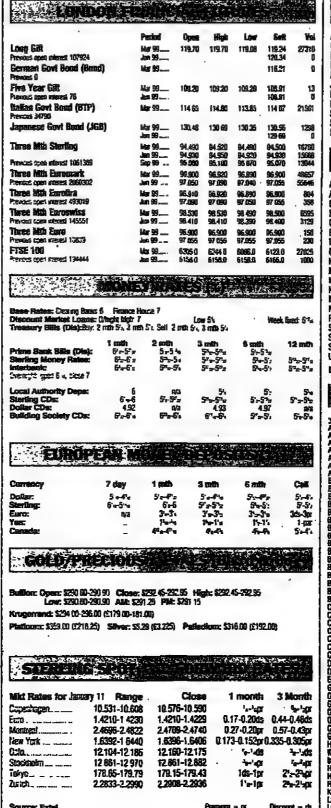
further reductions in profit forecasts is clear. Food manufacturing is in good shape but, again, margins could prove vulnerable if the UK moves into recession. And then there is the embarrassment of having to make a £40 million provision against the enforced sale of flour

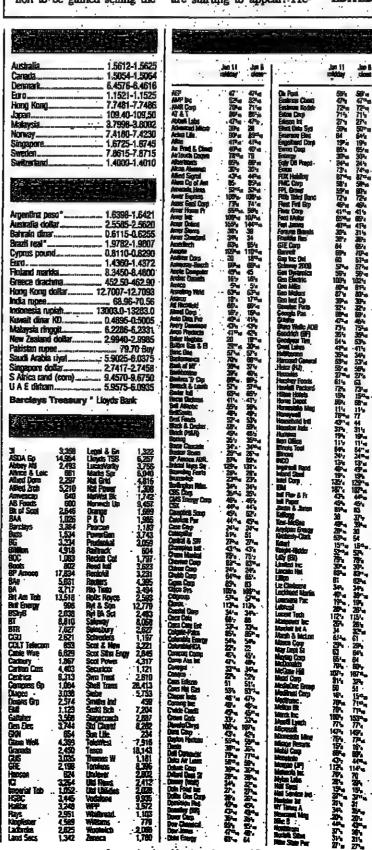
only last March. Still, the failing price of manufacturing acquisitions should bring the best out of Tomkins's management. The shares trade on less than 10 times earnings — attractive for patient investors.

mills bought for £97 million

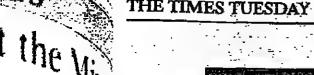
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Future bright unless Europe is set on kamikaze mission

The world is unlikely to

return to a pre-Keynesian

age of

innocence

fter preparing the crystal-ball gazing in which I indulged today, I glanced back to the way this age was laid out last year. I was suddenly struck by a horrible realisation. Of the six charts I have presented on the right, four are virtually identical to the ones that were pub-

lished here exactly a year ago. Last January I felt even more confident than I do today that the dollar would strengthen against the euro, that the pound would prove "surprisingly stable", that long-term in-terest rates would start rising and that "the bears would take charge" on Wall Street and the other main Western stock markets. Only one of these four predictions — the one about the pound - turned out to be anywhere near right. So how h I now repeat the same

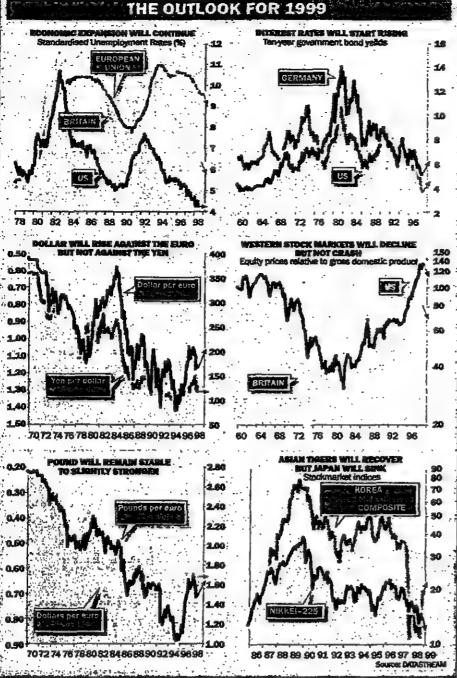
Shouldn't I adjust my opinions, in the spirit of Keynes's celebrated rejoinder. When the facts change, I change my mind. What do you do, Sirrand what if this year's predictions. tions do turn out to be right? Won't I be guilty of simply applying the "stopped clock" theory of forecasting: the principle that if you keep saying the same thing for long enough, a time will eventually come when you seem to be exactly

right?
These are all potentially valid criticisms. I will therefore d a big qualification to all my predictions this year. The views presented below are more than usually subject to revision because 1999 is a year that could move along two very different paths. It could be a year of strong economic recovery and falling unemployment for most parts of the world - and my hunch is that this is how things will turn out. Most of the conditions are now firmly in place for a healthy rebound, especially in countries where econompessimism and consumer and business retrenchment at the end of last year reached irrational extremes.

prime example of this syndrome was Britain. Subject to the qualifications explained below, I certainly expect the British economy to recover and unemployment to resume its fall around the middle of 1999. My hunch, in fact, is that the worst is already over and the UK economy will grow by 1.5 per cent or more. With interest. rates falling and the City benefiting from the revival in financial confidence, figures for consumer spending could start to surprise on the upside from now on. Another unexpected boost for Britain will come from the City's growing domi
expect. My guess is that Brit
ward shift in worldwide long
can, British and European

of the unified European ish base rates will bottom; at term interest rates. These are

companies should start to look



don's position as the financial centre of Europe has nothing to do with whether the bankers and dealers buy their sandwiches with euros or nounds. On the other hand, the rapidly improving gastronomic quality of the sandwiches available in the City has been a ma-

I also expect the US economy to remain much stronger than expected. The OECD has just predicted that US growth will fall from 3.5 per cent in 1998 to 1.5 per cent this year: This forecast could be beaten by as much as a full percentage point, just as it was last year. The upward momentum of US consumption, investment and income growth re-mains strong and I see no rea-son why this should be reversed even if the stock market falls quite sharply, which I think it eventually will.

Of course, every silver lin-ing has a cloud behind it. If I am right about the unexpected. strength of the world economy, then interest rates, particu-larly in Britain and America, will not fall as far as markets

er figures predicted by most City analysis. This means that the pound is more likely to rise a bit than to fall, at least against the euro. American rates are unlikely to fall any further at all."

Whether and when American rates will start rising is the great imponderable which will determine the fate of Wall Street and all other financial markets. I suspect that the Federal Reserve will move to a tightening bias, without actually raising rates, sometime in the spring. This could be the event that sets off another stock market correction. But will this finally turn out to be the long-expected bear mar-ket? I think it will.

nce the market decides that the US and world economies are growing more strongly than expected and that interest rates are rising, there will be a strong sense that this is a decisive turn in the economic cycle and not just a temporary blip. This should be reflected in a big up-ward shift in worldwide long-

financial markets. One of my 5.5 or 5.75 per cent, rather than now at post-War lows. These side bets for 1999, is that peo the 5 per cent discounted in fu-ple will finally realise that Lon-tures markets, or the even low-assume that inflation will remain not just low but non-existent — and not just for the next few years but forever. I think this is extremely improb-Having discovered that re-

essions can be prevented by

demand - management and that money can be printed at will, I think the world is imlikely ever to return to a pre-Keynesian age of impocence, when prices were as likely to fall as to rise. If bonds turn, then equity prices will certainly fall even more sharply. The bear market in equities will not be caused by fears of recession, as assumed last summer. Instead investors will decide that stratospheric valuation levels cannot be sustained in a world of higher interest rates. I do not, however, expect the setback in equities to be particularly catastrophic. I reject com-pletely the view that Wall Street is in some kind of Japanese-style bubble. Latter-day examples of Tulip Mania certainly abound among the Internet stocks, most of which will end up literally worthless, but shares in established Ameriattractively valued again after a 40 per cent fall, typical of past bear markets. And before the bear market begins, per-haps in the summer, leading equities could easily rise by another 10 per cent. So far I have focused on Brit-

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ain and America, but the prospects for continental Europe and Asian emerging markets are also potentially good. The Asian "tigers" are now clearly recovering. Given a fair wind from America and Europe this should continue. Europe, if it had the right policies, could grow rapidly for years, easily halving its present 11 per cent are the "right" policies for Europe? Changes in employment practices, deregulation and tax reform are needed but by far the most important policies that could rapidly reduce unemployment are the ones that the politicians of euroland have handed over to the unaccountable and largely inexperi-enced bureaucrats who now run the European Central Bank: further urgent reductions in interest rates and, above all, a determined effort to push the euro gradually but significantly lower against the dollar and yen.
If the ECB adopted such

pro-growth policies, the accelcrating growth and falling unemployment in Europe would largely deal with the biggest structural problems hanging over the world economy - the huge imbalances of trade and savings between America, Japan and the EU.

The same could be even more true of Jahas wasted another year with half-hearted implementation of economically illiterate policies. It is now probably too late, both economically and politically, to hope that anything can be done this year to reverse what Richard Medley, the consultant based in New York, has aptly called Japan's "death spiral". As the spiral continues, the yen will remain malignantly hard and the Nikkei will sink to new lows.

The greatest danger facing the world economy in 1999 is that European policymakers will now make the same mistake as the Japanese. Instead of acting immediately to guarantee continuing growth in euroland, the ECB may wait un-til it is too late. If this happens, then euroland could easily be caught in a Japanese style spiral, with an overvalued currency investment and employment to collapse, which in turn causes bigger trade sur-pluses and pushes the curren-

cy even higher.

This brings me back to the caveat I mentioned at the start. If the euro continues to appreciate against the dollar in the first few months of its existence, the already grim indus-trial conditions in Europe and especially in Germany could deteriorate very fast. If this is allowed to happen, I will have to conclude that the ECB is set on a Japanese-style kamikaze mission. My entire optimistic scenario for the world economy will have to be

derstand, thinks has been overlooked. Expect the fact to be afforded

Inne keeping
THE Old English Pub Company has

been casting around for a new name.

Shareholders need not fear a huge bill for image consultants and a sud-

den. Diageo-style makeover into something mis-spelt and obscure, be-

cause the company is merely looking

to reflect a growing focus on accom-

Barry Warwick, the convivial chief

executive, was taken by Old English

Inns, but the name has already been

nabbed by a publican in Notts. How-

ever today's trading statement may

contain news that Warwick's negotiat-

ing skills and a small cheque have

VIRGIN TRAINS continues to eradi-

cate the last smidgen of goodwill

still attached to the Virgin name

from Richard Branson's successes

elsewhere. Commuters into Euston have been handed a bizarre apology

from Chris Tibbits, the managing di-

proved sufficient.

PlayStation stands the test of time in a technological era

he pace of the technolog-ical revolution means that products that are new and exciting today will be dull and old hat in a couple of years' time. As soon as I took delivery of a computer with a 486 chip. Intel brought out the Pentium processors and the Pentium II soon followed. I feel like I'm driving a Model

T Ford. So how come the Sony Play Station is still selling so well? More than three years after it was launched, the PlayStation has just had its best Christmas, selling more than 500,000 consoles in the UK and more than five million worldwide.

This means that there are now more than 3.5 million PlayStations in the UK and 50 million around the world, repesenting sales of nearly £10 billion for Sony's first interactive entertainment product. When you add in the amount that has been spent on games for the consoles, it is easy to see sales of more than £20 billion on PlayStation.

What is perhaps even more startling is that - ignoring pre-paid mobile phones -PlayStation was also the most popular present given in the UK this Christmas. We have all heard about Furbies, the craze of 1998. Well only 350,000 Furbies were sold in the UK this Christmas, 70 per cent of the PlayStation sales. Not only that but PlayStation has been outselling Nintendo 64, its newer and more powerful rival by between two and three to one over recent

The story of PlayStation goes back to 1995, when Sony launched the product in an at-tempt to break into the lucrative games console market that was dominated by Sega and Nintendo. At the time of the launch, Nintendo was still a year away from launching N64, so Sony only had to worry about Sega Saturn, a console that is every bit as good as PlayStation. Yet PlaySta-tion demolished Saturn in the marketplace and it did so for two reasons

So how has Sony done it?

Firstly, the Sony name, and the structure of the company, helped PlayStation immense-ly. Many of the old Sega and Nintendo users were teenage boys and young men, who were your archetypal "early adaptors" in marketing terms, although others might prefer to call them nerds. Sony needed to break out of that group and attract people who were interested in interactive entertainment but were not sure about it. It used the fact that it had a good brand name in electronics and well-developed distribution channels to try to attack part of the market that Sega and Nintendo had yet to touch.

Secondly, Sony was used to being able to deliver whole entertainment packages. Ever since it lost the Betamax/ VHS battle in the late-1970s. when Sony's superior video recorder technology failed be-cause it could not persuade the Hollywood studios to release videos in the Betamax format, it had been developing its entertainment side. It bought a film studio and a record company and used both of these to cement its position in the electronics mar-

In computer games it was a



bought Psygnosis, a games maker based in Liverpool, a couple of years before it launched PlayStation. This allowed it to develop games for its new console, and gave it a good idea of what sold in the games market and how Nintendo and Sega were doing. Critically, Sony allowed all the big games companies ac-

cess to its computer codes

months before its launch, so that there were 20 important games available on PlayStation within a few weeks of its release. Sega was much more

The fact that so many games were available on Play-Station has also been one reason for its longevity. The secand is a strategy of continually reducing the sale price, from an original £249 to £99 today. This has been matched by Nintendo 64, but Sony appears to have won this little price battle. The third has been aggressive marketing through television and spon-

ing director for Sony Enter-tainment, reckons that during 1998 Sony spent £20 million promoting PlayStation in the UK. Most of this has been on television advertising, includ-ing the award-winning Dou-ble Lives advert made by TBWA, and a large amount of cross promotion with games makers. This means that when the latest Spiro the Dragon, Lara Croft or Crash Bandicoot game comes out. Sony will devise a joint advert and often will pay for it. The next one coming to our screens is for Metal Gear Solid, the new hit game from Japanese group Konami, which apparently incorporates real emotional responses as part of the interactive experience. Sony has also been spend-

In football it has deals with the FA Premier League and the Champions League and it supports underground sports such as snowboarding, skateboarding and inline skating. It has also been sponsoring club nights and some music events, though it would steer clear of something as "uncool" as Phil Collins.

The real challenge come this summer, when Sega launches Dreamcast, the next generation of console, in Europe. Sony does not have a rival to Dreamcast yet, so it will be fighting Sega with one hand behind its back this Christmas. However, given that PlayStation will be a third of Dreamcast's price, and there will be 20 times as many games available, Sega will have a tough task knocking PlayStation off top spot for Christman 1999.



Crash Bandicoot has benefited from advertising help from Sony

Herr raising

"DOING business in Germany" is the title of an internal briefing docu-ment sent out to senior managers at Bankers Trust to help them during the merger talks with Deutsche Bank, "The German/American interface in the business world is tricky for

both sides," it begins.
"Americans frequently feel that the
Germans are rigid and authoritariand the Germans find the Amerible." Well, that's national stereotypes over and done with.



A German colleague says some of the advice on etiquette is somewhat old-fashioned, but it is, I suppose, useful to know that is is rude to tap your forehead in conversation or to arrive more than 15 minutes late for dinner.

The note ends with a section on cultural attitudes - Americans live in the present. Germans are more longterm oriented. "For Germans, a sense of impending catastrophe is nothing. unusual," it warns. US-style opti-mism "is equated with naivete". And no, nothing saying don't mention the war.

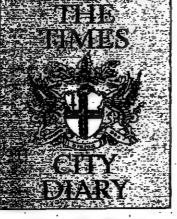
SO FAR two airlines, and counting, have put themselves forward as the originator of my story on Saturday about Nicola, the foul-mouthed advice to the pilot. British Airways insisted the story, and the pilot, was theirs, although I had my doubts. British Midland is claiming Nicola for their own, from a couple of dec-ades ago. But I have two claims so far for Qantas, and some reliable looking evidence. Any others!

eight-year-old and her unprompted

tirement at 59. who feels comfortable surrounded by like minds, has re-hired a friend. be cleaning the trains

TODAY'S trading statement from the Buropean side of Kingfisher 45

Kingfisher, the Woolworth, B&Q and comet retail combine; will be the first side the UK, a fact that Mulcahy, I unbeen cleaning them.



an old mate of Sir Geoff Mulcahy. chief executive, who has slipped in un-noticed as the director of corporate

Hingston used to be at Kinglisher -during the Doons bid he even postponed his honeymoon to be around - but left to make a few bob from his own agency.
His return has eclipsed the man who was doing the job, because Hing-

ston has been given a seat on the executive committee, where the real power is. So John Eyre is taking early re-This is not the first time Mulcahy.

rector, for the state of the rolling The cleaning equipment is being up-graded. "Unfortunitely, this means that for the next few weeks, as we will be cleaning the trains by hand, you may notice that they are not as clean as usual." I think this translates as, sorry the trains are so filthy but we've

Repeat fees MICHAEL GREEN'S Carlton is set

to earn uncounted millions from a pornographic video, I can reveal. Before Cariton's lawyers book their next expensive holiday, the whole thing is quite legitimate. Disney, as you may have read elsewhere, is having to withdraw 3.4 million copies of The Rescuers because they contain unauthorised images. Technicolor, a Carlton subsidiary, produced them but was in no way at fault. So it gets to do the job again. It's an ill wind . . . MARTIN WALLER

martin.waller@the-times.co.uk



Green: unexpected video windfall

on service...

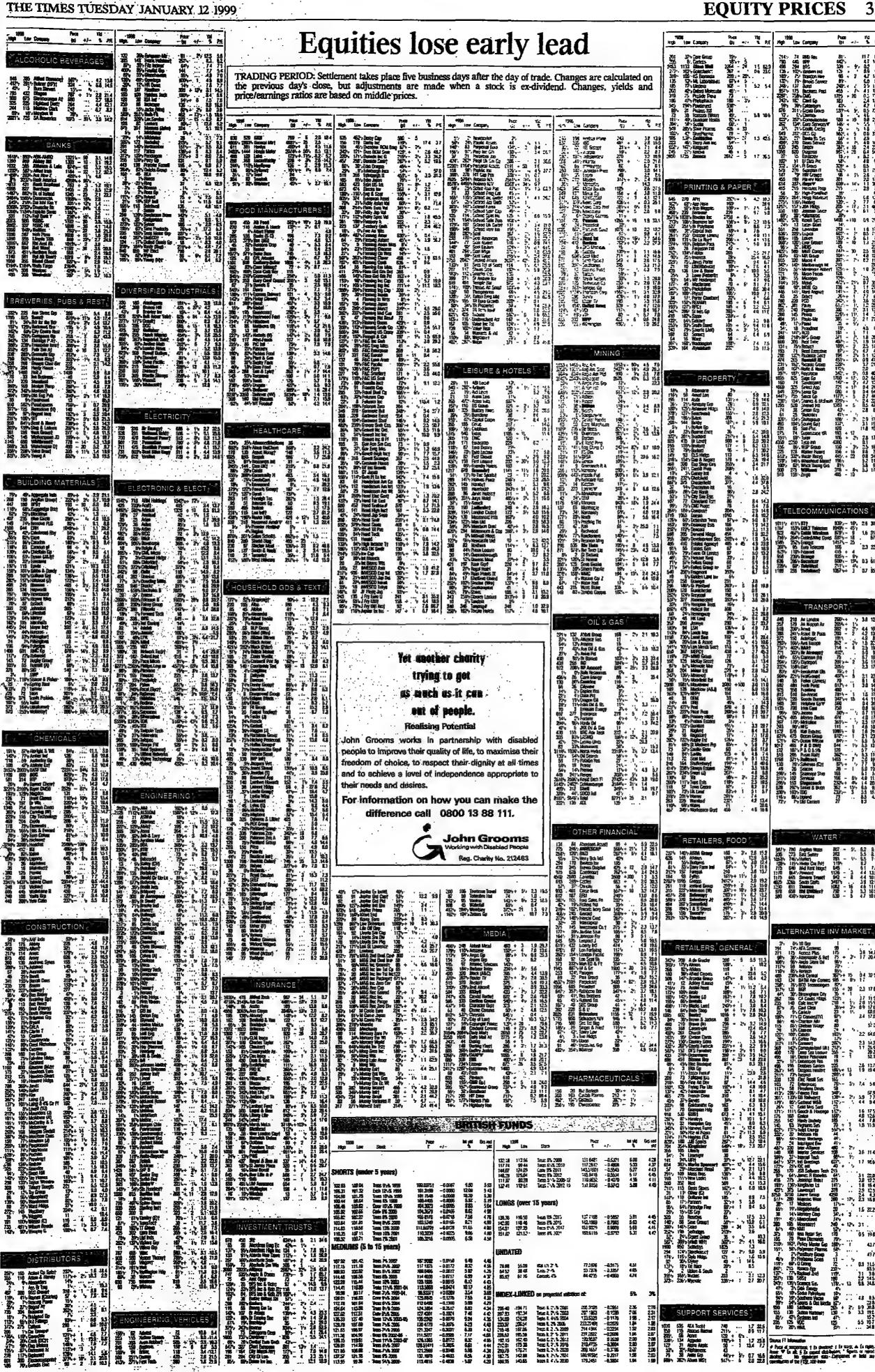
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هڪذابن ريامِل





CLASSICAL CDS Who spent the best afternoon with Debussy?

THE TIMES



Stylish highlights, but needs a trim

This short,

unhappy life

arbara's biological clock is going tick tock - or, as it sometimes seems in Liz Lochhead's warm, likeable but long-winded comedy, tick tock tock tock, She is a Glaswegian, turning 39, separated from her husband Davie, successful enough in her career as a hairdresser to appear in TV makeover programmes. but desperate to have a child. though not necessarily in the old-fashioned way "where the husband is present at the con-ception". What is she to do?

Her mother, a bigoted old trout of whom Barbs is inordinately fond, thinks she should be reconciled with Davie: but he is besotted with a 22-yearold dolly. Barbs herself persuades a gay friend, Brendan, to donate regular lashings of sperm via a turkey-baster. She also starts an affair with her sister-in-law's son, who was adopted while a tot but has come to Glasgow in search of his long-lost mother. The re-

his Beckett evening is divided into four parts. The first, in which Edward Petherbridge plays Krapp, lasts 45 minutes; the interval extends to about 30; the second Beckett piece, Breath, occupies 35 seconds, after which Petherbridge returns to the stage for what is described as "question-fielding" but which on the press night turned out to be a recital of anecdotes mostly to do with Petherbridge himself. An odd

Back in the 1970s Albert



sult is a successful pregnancy, but one that occurs in so unexpected yet so satisfyingly logi-cal a way that you should forgive me for giving away the plot.
I find myself in at least two minds about this play. One of those minds is grateful to Loch-

head for creating several plausible if not-too-deep charac-ters, prime among them Barbs herself. It is a role that gives the excellent Siobhan Redmond every chance to toss her mane of red hair and nervily pace her giant loft, while projecting the forlorn resilience or artificially bright desolation of a woman who, as she remarks, "can't see how I can be pushing 40 when I still don't know what I'm going to do

with the premiere of Not I, 15

or so minutes of searing mono-

logue staged in a pale light in

which we could just make out

Billie Whitelaw's mouth cease-

lessly babbling. Krapps may

come and go but that White-

This will not be the case

law mouth stays with me.

But the other mind persistently grumbled at scenes that almost invariably consist of duologues involving Barbs and A.N. Other and absolutely invariably go on too long. Dramatic momentum is not yet Lochhead's strength, nor is understatement. She needs to learn to hint, suggest, imply - and not heave thoughts and feetings at us as if they were cabers and we were spectators at some Lowland gathering

where prizes are given for ver-

bal labour. Yet her humanity is not in doubt. I wondered at times if she had fully pondered the im-plications for the child of being brought up by a mother who would be 58, busy, and probably still unmarried or unpartnered when he or she reached 18; but there is plenty in the play to show that she sees the demands that single parenthood will make on Barbs herself. After all, there are two other lone or near-lone mums on

the protagonist's own, irritating mother, Anne Kidd as the friend who gave up her firstborn and is now warily reconciled with him - and both have clearly struggled to make

John Tiffany, who directs,

could do more to quicken the pace, but gets as much as can reasonably be expected from his supporting performers: John Kazek as kindly Brendan, Enzo Cilenti in the somewhat awkwardly written role of Barbs's eager young lov-er, and, above all, Scott-Jones as a mum with loud, blunt opinions and the embarrassing habit of wearing cardies plastered with hearts and tiny Christmas trees or presenting her daughter with lurid ma-genta jerseys festooned with stars. When this feisty figure is onstage the temperature rises. When she is absent it is usually milder than it might be.

BENEDICT **NIGHTINGALE**

short doses of precise, concise

language.
This is his achievement in Krapp. Here a man is marking his 69th birthday by play-ing the tape he recorded 30 years earlier. Memories of that year surge to the surface, and what Petherbridge conveys so admirably, co-directing himself with David Hunt, is the stillness of the man listening to his younger self, so rashly confident, so bitthely unaware of the withering

With his wild white hair and raw-nosed face he has the look of a clown stripped of his make-up, defenceless against these assaults from the past. For it is not the sweeps of rhetoric that engage him -- he furiously winds the tape past such passages — but the limpid account of drifting in a boat with a girl. Their love affair is reaching its end and, 30 years on, he rewinds the tape again and again to hear his simple, vivid phrases. Beckett gives Krapp no words to express his response but Petherbridge stares into the nothingness of his present day and, within a certain range, we complete the picture of his desolation for

JEREMY KINGSTON



Siobhan Redmond is celebrity hairdresser Barbs in Liz Lochhead's warm, likeable but long-winded comedy Perfect Days

Edward Petherbridge (Krapp) listens to his younger self

Krapp's Last Tape

with Breath, though I am pleased to have caught sight of it at last. (Blink and you miss it.) It is said to be the shortest play ever written — the stage directions take longer to read than the piece itself. A stage lit-tered with rubbish becomes visible in a light that moves from faint to less faint to more faint. At the same time we hear what Beckett calls an "instant of recorded vagitus", ie, a baby's cry, a breath is inhaled, exhaled and the cry heard again as the light fades. That's life.

The applause developed out of gulps of laughter, probably recognising Beckett's nerve more than the work itself. which only superficially seems the quintessence of Beckettism. He has finally annihilated both words and action but his best work injects us with

ourselves. That's life.

CONCERTS: Spain meets Russia in Manchester; impressive work from the youngsters; and a centenary salute

Homage to Catalonia

s music director of the Orchestra, Lawrence Foster has taken on a whole new reperioire. Spanish music, Falla above all, he obviously knew before, but Catalan music is something different. So the Spanish and Catalan programme he brought to his concert with the Halle Orcheskeen anticipation and nervous apprehension in equal proportions - the apprehension deriving largely from the feeling that the Tchaikovsky symphony clumsily tacked on at the end would do little or nothing to compensate for the box-office negative represented by the rest of the concert.

Hall was far from full. Persuasive publicity might have improved the situation but, bearing in mind that it might also have led to more widespread disappointment with at least one of the Catalan pieces, it is probably as well that it was not applied in this case.

Xavier Montsalvatge's Serenata a Lydia for flute and orchestra was very welcome. even though it is probably more successful in its original flute and piano version. Certainly, one can imagine the introduction for unaccompanied flute, which seemed disproportionately long in these circumstances, making a rather more atmospheric effect in the church at Cadaques where the piece was first performed. But it is resourcefully and delicately scored in this version too and its material is so sensitively adapted to the solo instrument as to inspire a most ac-

Hallé/Foster

Manchester

formance from the Barcelona flautist Magdalena Martinez. The music director of the Barcelona SO might, on the other hand, have spared us the Trombone Concerto of Salvador Brotons, which is as crudely put together as the translation of the programme note that came with it. It is true that concertos for trombone have always had a built-in disad-vantage — which is why there

are so few of them - and the problem is all the more acute now that they more or less have to take a variety of extended techniques into account. The Spanish soloist, Ricardo Casero, proved himself equal to the demands of Brotons's Op 70 (not bad going for a composer of 40) but without demonstrating that there is anything distinctive or more than minimally interesting in it. least of all its grotesque and

structurally too early cadenza. If it made good sense to open the concert with three dances from Falla's El amor brujo, it made none at all to end it with Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony - except that the latter work was delivered in a performance that was emotionally and dramatically fresh, particularly well coloured in the scherzo, and secure in the long-standing faith the Halle and Foster have in

GERALD LARNER French love to hate which

Fresh in the memory

ifferent though they all are, a "typical" concert in the PLG Young Artists Series usually consists of several short pieces written sometime between 1950 and last week. But Thursday's event featured a single, massive work composed in the early years of the century: Charles Ives's Concord Sona-ta, given a hugely impressive perform-ance by Australian pianist Mark Kruger.

No work represents the spirit of Ives better than this sonata, which takes its name from the Massachusetts village that was home to the New England Transcendentalists. Much of it still sounds as modern as ever, especially the long and lofty first movement. Kruger, who played the entire work from memory, unfolded this con-yincingly, showing his command of pianistic colour in everything from the clanging chords to the dusky musings.

If the jazzy and experimental scherzolike movement that follows offers the listener some relief, it is even more taxing for the performer: Kruger demonstrated

hen Francis Pou-lenc and Pierre Ber-nac gave their first

London recital after the libera-

tion of Paris, it was on Pou-

lenc's birthday, January 7.

and it was at the Wigmore

Hall. On the same date and in

the same venue, 54 years on,

the centenary of the compos-

er's birth was celebrated in a

gala concert on Thursday

which, I suspect, would have

He may well have been sur-

prised at the devoted silence

which attended Felicity Lott's

little encore performance of

the slinky Chemin d'amour:

Poulenc always felt that, if he

were remembered at all. it

would be by works like his

Stabat Mater. not by those

echoes of the case-concert and

It was, indeed, just those

songs which continue to make Poulenc a composer the

the music-hall.

pleased Poulenc no end.

all his virtuosity here, before relaxing into the almost folksy beauty of the third move-ment and the hazy finale. He was joined at the close by the flautist Kathryn Thomas, for the nostalgic melody that settles the whole work.

In the main concert of the evening, the Galliard Ensemble wind quintet played four living composers: two were present. one aged 89 and the other 16. Minna Keal's return to composition in the mid-1970s was signalled by her Wind Quintet, a work of bold and sometimes poignant gestures. The fluency of James Olsen's writing in Imbroglio, full of lively ideas and a sometimes quirky lyricism, marks him out as a name to watch.

Birtwistle's first published work, Refrains and Choruses, makes demands

Pout, patter

and profanity

time for lan Bostridge. Pou-

lenc would surely have been

deeply moved at the intense

imaginative focus of the

young tenor: at the way the lip curied and the pulse fluttered

in the angry song about the

gypsy wagon, and at the ex-

traordinary high half-voice

Bostridge sustained in the singing of Une herbe pauvre.

the weak grass appearing

were entrusted to Lott and her

pianist Graham Johnson, The

Trois poèmes de Louise La-

lanne of 1931, and the Meta-

morphoses of 1943 had Lott

pouting, pattering and tra-la-

la-ing, while Johnson, enjoy-

ing the sea-spray of the Reine

des muettes and the mischief

of Paganini, seemed for all the

world like a reincarnation of

Poulenc himself, composing

Not a hint of café or caba-

ret, not a trace of Jacques

Trenet was to be heard,

though, in the nine sombre

prewar settings of the poetry

of Paul Eluard in the cycle Tel

as he sat at the piano.

that were easily met by the Galliards: the capricious textures were handled with the same assurance they brought to Ligeti in the beguiling Six Bagatelies. Ligeti may still have been under the influence of Stravinsky here, but he was already experimenting with unusual tone colour.

Sharing this concert was the French harpist Anne-Sophie Bertrand, an artist of real poise. Her programme included one premiere: the Belgian Franz Geysen's Heptominomania. Based on the number seven, as its title suggests, the piece is a perpetuum mobile that builds from a gen-

tle fluttering to a vigorous end.

Works by Heinz Holliger and Marius Constant brought forth a dazzling display, and the even more extreme contrasts in Carter's Bariolage were shaped cohesively in a performance of great beauty. Paul Patterson's Spiders gave Bertrand scope for wit too: she has everything it takes to be a "complete" musician.

JOHN ALLISON

Even with the ballast of these more heartfelt songs, an these more heartfelt songs, an entire evening of Poulenc song can wear a bit thin. So it was good to have the young pianist Steven Orborne on hand to give tenderly witty performances of three of Poulenc's Novelettes. Good, too, to be reminded by the BBC Singers of the composer's skill in choof the composer's skill in cho-ral writing in Un soir de neige and a handful of the folksy

Chansons françaises.

And, best of all, the charivari of musical characters which make up the Nash Ensemble were ideally cast, with pianist Susan Tomes and baritone Francois le Roux, to inhabit the leering masks of Poulenc's "cantate profane". Le bal masque, with its cracking whip, truculent cornet and clowning woodwind. The concert may be heard on Radio 3 at 7.30pm tonight.

HILARY FINCH

BUILDING'A'LIBRARY

A guide to the best classical recordings,

in conjunction with BBC Radio 3

DEBUSSY: PRELUDE A L'APRES-MIDI D'UN FAUNE Reviewed by

DEBUSSY'S famous Prelude isn't simply a superlative piece of orchestral tonepainting, it is perhaps the most effective of all at-tempts to translate a piece of poetry into musical terms. In Stephane Maliarmė's poem L'après-midid'un faune, a young faun submits to lascivious, ultimately blasphemous fantasies as he basks in the full heat of the Mediterranean

Debussy follows the poem quite closely, from the incantation of the faun's pipes (solo flute) at the opening, via the rapt central hymn to the end, where he stretches out his limbs in the sand and "succumbs to noontime's ceremonial si-

Few flautists capture that incantatory quality in the opening flute solo as well as the London Philharmonic's Jonathan Snowden in the recording conducted by Serge Baudo (Classics for Pleasure, CD-CFP 6022, £6.99). The continuation quiet ripples of colour from harp, distant horn-calls, and one of the most magical silences in all music — is just as fine. Snowden isn't the only impressive flautist: there's Michel Debost of the Orchestre de Paris, conduct-

ed by Daniel Barenboim, or

when he's not playing the performance has a tendency to heaviness. Smith is more a primus inter pares, but the beauty is all rather chaste, as is the performance as a whole — and you won't find much about chastity in Mallarme's poem. Herbert von Karajan's earlier (and much the finer) DG recording with the Ber-lin Philharmonic appeared in 1965, but it sounds very esentable in CD transfer. In this version the central

hymn is very much the high point: magnificent, sumptu-

the Cleveland Orchestra's

Joshua Smith, as recorded

under Pierre Boulez (both

on DG). But Debost tends

to stand out as the "star" of

the Barenboim version;

ACT CO

1000

ous, it rises, crests and falls like an immense wave. Eugene Ormandy and the Philadelphia Orchestra (Sony Classical) stir the emotions too. Ormandy's is a version which sings, and it's full of vibrant, truly Mediterranean colours. So too -remarkably - is the 1939 recording by the LPO conduct-

ed by Thomas Beecham (Pearl). Beecham is never quite as ardent as Ormandy, but there's some exquisite solo playing, and the coda has a poetry of its own. If it had to be one recording though, Id choose Baudo: consistently poetic, beautifully played, in an atmospheric modern recording. and at budget price.

To order the recommended recording, with free delivery. please send a cheque payable to The Times Music Shop to FREEPOST, SCO681, Forms, IV36 OBR or phone 0345 023498; e-mail: music@the-times.co.uk. Next Saturday on Radio 3 (Ilam): Schubert's Trout Piano Quintet

Last orders in the waste land

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VISUAL ART:

Charles Saatchi

not only financed Neurotic Realism, he also

Richard Cork

named it.

views the results.

gious appetite for the latest art. Charles Saatchi has until now stopped short of naming a new movement. When Damien Hirst, Rachel Whiteread and their contemporaries first appeared at his gallery in the early 1990s, their show was given the non-com-mittal title Young British Art-ists. Its studied neutrality acknowledged that the heyday of isms belonged to a distant ra. Before the First World War, Fauvism, Expressionism. Cubism and Futurism were only the most notorious of the revolutionary groups that erupted during Modernism's most turbulent years. But artists in recent decades have shied away from labels, so the arrival of Neurotic Realism at the Saatchi Gallery is a great surprise.

Equally unusual is the fact that this movement was invented by a collector. From Impressionism onwards, many avant-garde upheavals derived from terms of abuse, hurled by enraged critics or gallery visitors. Only a few groups were named by the artits themselves, and none was the brainchild of a pairon who purchased their work. In that respect Saatchi's launching of Neurotic Realism breaks with historical precedent. It seems to inaugurate a bolder, more open and partisan approach

eurotic Realism is not however, completely divorced from the artists displayed in the Royal Academy's Sensation exhibition. Martin Maloney, the only painter in this new show, was included in that survey. The overlan exends to the ICA's Die Young Stay Pretty, organism by Maloney last year, Among its most prominent participants was Steven Gontarski, whose thing spin-drier, vigorously rosculpture now reappears at the Saatchi Gallery. Die Young Stay Pretty turned out to be a disappointingly slight event. But Neurotic Realism. in this first instalment at least, is far more substantial.

Nobody displays more apocalyptic relish than Tomoko Takahashi. Tokyo-born but now based in London, she has been given by far the largest area and handles it with gusto. Viewed from the top of the steps, her mammoth installaon looks like a nightmarishprophecy of chronic millennial malfunction. The entire floor is strewn with detritus scavenged from skips, dumps and friends' attics. Initially, the room resembles a technological graveyard, a wasteland of instant obsolescence. But, as I scanned the piles of junk. signs of activity began to asorn themselves

The bars of a small heater glow orange inside an office drawer. The deck of a recordplayer spins round, carrying watch mechanisms rather than LPs and relaying no sound at all. It is as futile as TV sets scattered around me room, flickering and buzzing but failing to transmit any coherent images. Although clocks tick on crazily chaotic table-tops, they are incapable of telling the correct time. A glass water-jug bubbles pointlessly on a hot-plate, while a nearby electric fan swivels inside a metal box. The sense of absurdity is reinforced by a grum-



No artist exhibited at Neurotic Realism Part I displays more apocalyptic relish than Tomoko Takahashi. Her mammoth installation Line-Out (1998) looks like a nightmarish prophecy of chronic millennial malfunction

woodland and swamp, they ap-

pear at first to have a documen-

Soon enough, however, we realise that the young men's

tary veracity.

Bill Woodrow's early work, it counts here only as one of a thousand redundant objects. Encountered on the pave-

mem of a blighted street, they would all be dismissed as rubbish Reassembled in this installation, though, they finally take on an unlikely order of their own. Takahashi has carved out narrow pathways between the heaps, enabling us to pick a path gingerly through the bedlam. At the same time, though, she con-veys an overwhelming sense of pulverised breakdown. Like the crash-helmet resting upside-down on an abandoned

case, or the corner crammed tating with its door open and with fragments from half-nothing inside Reminiscent of crushed bicycles, the space resembles the scene of a cataciysmic accident caused by forces beyond human control.

If Takahashi's contribution manages to sound an end-ofthe century warning Brian C. Griffiths's roomful of equipment reduces dysfunction to a childlike level. The control consoles living the walls should be streamlined, gleaming and state-of-the-art, fit for a set in a science-fiction movie. In reality, though, they are made of cardboard boxes joined together with ungainly strips of brown tape. This is Star Trek's starship reconstructed by a cack-handed, and quite possi-

> impersonal gratification. pursued by love (left) Gontarski's Lesbians Acquiesce (1998) and Martin

Maloney : Sex Club

The clocks and monitors turn out to be made of pencils or burnt matchsticks glued on to ic images focus on people. In Artist Rifle Series, uniformed figures carry out manoeuvres

cheap plastic plates. Chipped, smeared and stained, these redundant space-age monoliths are at once laughable and forlorn. Long since discarded, they have lapsed into melan-choly and inertia. So far, al-though the presence of human beings has been implied in the exhibition, they remain impossible to detect. But Paul Smith's powerful photograph-

informed, no doubt, by

Smith's own army experienc-

es. Moving between beach,

deranged. DIY devotee.

faces are oddly similar. Using digital techniques; Smith has inserted himself in all of them. Like a demented actor bent on taking every part in the dra-ma, he plays the three soldiers grimly shovelling sand as well as the corpse half-buried below them. Armed with a Stengun, he emerges from a forest tottering under the weight of his own injured body slumped across his shoulders.

Sometimes, it is possible to ignore his pervasive presence

and simply admire these images as arresting, even alarming

military exercises. But Smith does not allow us to forget him for long. When he appears ten times over as a crowd of victorious soldiers cheering their conquest of a burnt-out tank, his sheer recognisability makes the celebrations look like a charade. The play-acting involved in training exercises is here pushed to the point of outright ridicule, and yet the underlying coldness of these lethal rituals is, in a strange way, intensi-

re-creations of death-haunted

fied by Smith's interventions. Both here, and in another series of lager-lout partying called Make my Night, his in-sistence on posing for every fig-ure gives the pictures a demented mood. Whether urinat-

ing in the gents, kissing a phallic cucumber or pouring booze on a mate in the pub, Smith's identical drunken lads eventually take on the guise of crazed

n this sense, they have

unexpected links with the bodies in Steven Gootarski's sculpture. Made of PVC stuffed with polyester wadding, most of his figures are involved in orgiastic coupling. Although their faces are so blank that they verge on the robotic, human details have been added to their shimmering limbs. Matted hair can be detected, along with transfer tattoos and kinky socks hanging off leg-stumps.

ing serves only to stress their creepiness. Whether lunging lustfully at one another or in tertwining so closely that their separate forms are impossible to identify, these libidinous performers are all repellent. One pair, copulating on a Perspex plinth, seem to be sucking their faces into a single, hideously distorted, glutinous mass. For all their voracious concentration on sex, their bodies look so prosthetic that a feeling of futility hangs over even their most acrobatic feats.

But even the synthetic cloth-

Martin Maloney, at 37 the oldest exhibitor, operates as an éminence grise in Neurotic Realist circles. Here, however, he seems most closely allied with Gontarski's macabre pleasure-hunting. His paintings have grown larger, darker and more erotically explicit. Walking into Maloney's main room is akin to entering a gay club where everyone is hooked on unsafe sex. Tongues hang out, buttocks are brandished and fingers grab hungrily at dangling genitals.

But there is no sign of joy.

The emphasis throughout

these deliberately crude, daubed canvases is on impersonal gratification, pursued automatically by people devoid of love. Rave culture may be regarded by its participants as heaven, but in Maloney's panoramas it looks more like hell. · Neurotic Realism Part | at the

Saatchi Gallery, 98A Boundary Road, London NW8 (0171-624 8299) from Thursday until April 4



OTHER EXHIBITIONS IN LONDON AND THE REGIONS

Philippe Parreno's Speech Bubbles at the Jerwood Gallery

moods, its rhythms and shim-mer. But Davies's is an up-todate look. Watching hours of video footage of freshwater on a monitor screen, he takes photographic stills of what he thinks are the best moments. Nature is filtered through technology in what amounts to an

colour. The results are memerising. Close up you can see the pixellations of the screen, the image analysed into lines and grids. But take a few steps back, and the shadows and ripples resolve into almost romantic scenes.

and typographically impres-sive array of manifestos which are, in many ways, the most historically interesting aspect of this revolutionary move-Jason & Rhodes, 4 New Burl-

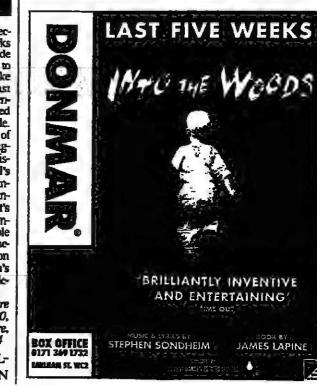
(0171-704 9522) until April 11

gton Place, London WI THE Arts Council Collection buys some 50 new works a year, attempting to decide which artists are "here to WITH all the ardour of a gang of schoolboys drawing up the rules of their back-ofstay". Only posterity can make the final judgment. But at least this show offers a fair representhe bikeshed society, the Italtation of what has been talked producing manifestos. From about over the past decade. The organisers find a theme of Marinetti shocked the public domesticity to provide a fragile link between pieces as diswith an iconoclastic column parate as Rachel Whiteread's doorknobs, the only remaining evidence of her now vanished House, Kerry Stewart's unsettling sculpture of a woman performing an impossible balancing act, Anya Gallaccio's candlelit meditation on temporality or Tracey Emin's bedspread, which boldly declares "Here to Stay".

Aberystwyth Arts Centre (01970 623232) until Jan 30,

then Metropole Arts Centre, Folkestone, Feb 13-March 14

RACHEL CAMPBELL-**JOHNSTON**



Balloons that speak volumes

A CLUSTER of helium balloons nestle against the ceil-ing. Look closer and you will see that they are comic-strip speech bubbles. But nothing is written on them. Philippe Parreno's artwork is intended as a comment in 3D on the sheer volume and vacancy of a chattering media culture.

But the blank speech bub- bles also encapsulate the spirit of Dumbpop. Their silence speaks. And the viewer should be suspicious of the self-deprecation which coyly labels the work of this international percup of artists dumb. These muse. Sure, they are easily accessible, superficially jolly and

way. But they are not complicit with the consumerism of the pop culture they pretend to represent. Graham Little's sculpture blends minimal Sixties art with its candy-coloured fashions, questioning, the point of banal enjoyment. Jun Hasegawa's cartoon teenagers balance between slickness and sense.

Jerwood Gallery, 171 Union Street, London SE1 (0171-654 0171), until Jan 17 -

IN A month when Monet is at the forefront of the art calendar, Robert Davies makes aninteresting contemporary comment on the great impression ist's theme. Water is the subject-matter of his latest show.

"Like Monet he studies its almost classical meditation on

Estorick Collection, 39a Canonbury Square, London NI

(0171-287 8841) until Feb 13

ian Puturists were continually

1909, when Filippo Tommaso

on the front page of Le Figaro, to 1944 when this provocative

Italian poet died, more than 300 manifestos were pub-

lished. Controversial and ag-

gressive, they were intended to

incite argument and anger. The exhibition, Zong Tumb

Tumb, marshalls a fascinating

Postman Elvis

RECOMMENDED TODAY

Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargk

LONDON

ROMEO AND JULIET, Sylvin Guillern of the star-crossed young lovers in the season's first performance by the Royal Ballet of Kenneth MacMillan's romantic work. Festival Hall (0171-960 4242) Opens

ORCHESTRA OF THE AGE OF ENLASHTENMENT: Herbert Blom-stedt, music director of the Lerpzig Gewandhaus, conducts the period Instrument band for the first time. The



Herbert Blomstedt leads

Second Symphony and Brahms' First Plano Competto played on an 1875 Bösendorfor by Alexsi Lubinan. Queen Elizabeth Hall (617:-980) 4242). Tonight, 7,45pm. § THE COLOUR OF JUSTICE: A remaised reconstruction of the Stephen Lewrence Inquiry. Timed to concide with this month's publication of the Rindings. Proloundly referent Tricycle (0171-328 1000) Opens

tornight, 7pm 📳 THE ENGLISH CONCERT: Virelds, Bach and Marcello receive the period instrument treatment here as Trevor Printick directs his internationally ecclamical arsemble. Wigmore Hall (0171-935 2141). Tonight, 7.30pm. (2)

ELSEWHERE

ABERDEEN: Scottish Baillet's Christ-mas season tour touches down with Peter Damelt's Cinderella. Yuria Shinohare dances tomghit's lead, with two cast changes to come. His Majesty's Theatre (01224 641122). Opens tonight, 7.30pm. (5)

641122). Opens tonight, 7:30pm, (a) BIRMINIGHAM: Jim Robunson, wrongly imprisoned as one of the Bridgeweser Four, at the author of Just, Not Fair, an account of his tie, Jessica Dromgoole directs Malcolm Tierney for Moving Theatre Company, Similogham Rep. (0121-236 8771), Opens tonight, 7:45pm. COVENTRY: The popular soprand

the OAE at the QEH

NEW WEST END SHOWS

Jeremy Kingston's choice or theatre showing in London ■ House full, returns only N Some seats available
Seats at all prices

■ ALEGRIA: The breathtakingly exotic Circue du Solei leturns to London with further prodigious teats of controllors free-daing and clowmor. Albert Hall (0171-583 8212).

If ACE OF CLUBS: Ned Cowled's musical involvy (sanga rickede Sail Away and Somertring About a Sailor) dating from 1949 and set in a seedy Soho night club washesop Source (0121-540 0282).

CI A SPECIAL OFFER: Set in a dis-play room, inspired by the book of Sharps Bedrooms and the stones of Paymond Carver, Alice Power and Alice Puncili magne the Inner III of a model couple Part of the London Mirns Fostival Young Vio Studio (0171-828 6363) KRAPP'S LAST TAPE. Edward

Sea review, page 32 Arts Theatre (0171-836 3334)

THE MEMORY OF WATER AMERI Steadman, Samantha Bind and Julia Savialha star in Shelagh Stephenson's acclaimed drama of family memonas. Vaudeville (0171-836 9997)

PERFECT DAYS: Sobhan Red-mond's award-wrung performance as the thirty-cometing celebrity hair/desise longing for a baby John Tiffany directs Liz Lochhead's progress comedy. See review, page 32. Hampstead (0171-722 9301). PETER PAN: Justin Salinger in the title role, with David Troughton as Captain Hook, in the return of Frons Land's enjoyable production. Land's enjoyable products Otivier (0171-452 3000).

COURT IN THE ACT: 19th-century

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

James Christopher's choice of the latest movies

NEW RELEASES

LITTLE VOICE (15): Mark Hermen's wonderful version of Jim Cartwright's stage hit, Jame Horracks sings glorious covers of borch song tavas. Michael Came, Ewan McGregor, Branca Biethyn and Jim Broadbent steaze around in the foreground.

THE SIEGE (15). Derzel Washington, Annette Bening, and Bruce Willis trip over each others' bootlaces as they by to defuse an Arab terrorest offensive in Manhottan. Chillingly real, beautifully acted. Director Edward Zwick lingers a real rew nerve.

PSYCHO (15): Hopeless remake of Hitchcock's original. Gus Van Sart re-shoots this classic lear movie in colour, misses the irones and

z (Pi) (15): Low-budget sci-fi adven-

the madness of a genius mathe

ANGEL DUST (ICA): Cool, classy Japanese metodrama about a psychic desective who has no nat her former lover and menter for killings on the Tokyo tube. Sogo kill directs a connectifier psychotroma that

TO HAVE AND HAVE NOT (PG): A

CURRENT

come tales of drugs, drink and halbuchston by Irvine Welsh Director, Paul McGuigan

SITCOM (18) A French bourgeois

STAR TREK: INSURRECTION (PG)



Dance, Japanese-style: the Sankai Juku company, the world's most popular butch troupe, in Shijima, the work it brings to London next week

Mad for designer chic

ex scandals are nothing new in the dance world. From the allegedly onanistic excesses of Nijinsky's first performance of L'Après-midi d'un faune to Michael Clark and Stephen Petronio's bed show at the Anthony d'Offay Gallery, a spot of rumpy-pumpy surfaces every so often to lend the dance community a touch of newsworthy notoriety. Yet surely no dance event has been launched in quite such a sensationally

scandalous manner as Japanese butch. In 1959 the first recorded performance of this extraordinary dance form included a scene in which a young man simulated sex with a chicken by strangling it between his thighs. In the fur-ore that followed. I doubt if anyone seriously bothered to ask how it was for the chicken, but for performers Tatsumi Hijikata and Yoshito Ohno the uproar heralded the suitably messy birth of an art form designed to present uncomfortable truths about Japanese society in a postwar, nuclear age. The school of dance subsequently developed by Hijikata. Ohno and their disciples became known as "ankoku butoh" (dark soul dance) and was characterised by white-painted, near-naked bodies, painfully slow movements, grimacing ex-

pressions and contorted postures. All of these elements retain their potent presence within this still-evolving dance form - now usually referred to simply as butch - but with a group like Sankai Juku, which visits Sadler's Wells next week, the explicit choreographic extremes of the early pioneers have given way to exquisite theatrical imagery and a design aesthetic that makes most Robert Wilson productions look untidy by comparison. There are no rapes or sacrificial fowls in Sankai Juku's shows -- though there are plenty of eggs; more of them later

DANCE: Butoh has come a long way since its birth in 1950s Japan, as Christopher Bowen discovered when he met up with Sankai Juku

⁶The

anger of

butoh is

no longer

Japanese

 but that is not to say the group's take on butch is without shock value. The company caused a sensation at the 1982 Edinburgh International Festival when, in a sort of slow-motion bu-

toh bungee jump, the five-man group

lowered themselves upsidedown from the roof of Lothian Regional Council headquarters. In Homage to Pre-history, the unfurling of these tragile bodies suggested the passage between birth and death, an allusion which was made real three years later when, during a performance in Seattle, a rope broke and one of the

troupe fell to his death.

There is less scope for fatal risk-taking in Sankai Juku's works these days, but the images of decay, desperation and eroticism that constitute an inherent part of this dance form can still disturb and fascinate. At the climax of Shijima, the

ion as their leader, choreographer and star performer, Ushio Amagatsu, writhes in silent agony below. These haunting images indicate that butch, born out of student protest and a backlash against American materialism in the Fifties, still has an angry edge. But, as Amagatsu explains, it is a different anger. "The experience of this generation of artists is not the same as

the first," he says. "Butoh was created

work the company brings to London,

four dancers rise in suspended crucifix-

by people who had experienced a change of values after the war. As for me, I don't know the war. Yes, there is anger in the work, but it is the anger which all human beings have. It is not

> According to Amagatsu. the most important aspect in the development of Sankai Juku (which trans-lates as Academy of the Mountain and Sea) was getting out of Japan. "In Europe I experienced many different cultures, and I realised that differences are very important in understanding the essence of our own culture, and ourselves." Yet the very strangeness

of butch, the way in which these slight, lean dancers transform themselves into tremulous creatures with stooped bodies and totally impassive or grotesquely exaggérated expressions, can make the art form seem alien to Western audiences. The movements

seem so internalised and personal to the individual dancers; how are we to "Individuality is very important," explains Amagatsu. "But the aim is always to show the universality. That is the theme of all my works — life and death, it is the same everywhere. In one sense Sankai Juku is a Japanese compa-

ny, but our work is common to every-

one. For example, the white face and

body and shaved head are always com-

pared to the Japanese traditions of the past. But for me these forms are univer-sal; white faces and bodies are represented in African and South American art. They are all over the world." There are those, however, who feet

that Amagatsu's quest for universality has led him too far from butch's roots. Some observers regard Sankai Juku's absorption of Western theatricality with great suspicion. The dance critic and historian Kazuko Kuniyoshi has written of the "mediocrity" in Amagarsu's work. And when the troupe performed its hugely successful The Egg Stands Out of Curiosity in Glasgow in 1000 to the trouble down in 1000 to the stands. 1990 the festival's deputy director, Neil Wallace, was heard to complain that Sankai Juku wasn't "real butoh": He

et exquisitely crafted works such as Shijima, with its mas-sive bas-relief setting of stacked body-forms and designer chic costumes accessorised with stylish egg earrings, give Sankai Juku an undenlable gloss. This design aes-thede is, suggests Amagaisu, as much a part of his nature as nature liself. "I grew up near the city and the sea where the air was transparent — that influenced me greatly. An appreciation of design is in my character."

So, too, is a clear appreciation of other dance forms. Amagatsu studied Gra-ham technique in Tokyo as a young mesmerising solos when he appears to be channelling the divine Martha in her long woollens period. As Amagatsu once wrote: "When I think of dance, the image of a prehistoric painting comes to mind." Martha, one feels, would approve.

● Sankai Juku is at Sadler's Wells (0171-863 8000) Jan 18-22

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THE STREET OF

CROCODILES

Elvis attains Nirvana

IS IT a brilliant piece of Post Modern irony or gross bad taste? The King is an Elvis Presley clone with a difference instead of recycling Love Me Tender, he impersonates Elvis impersonating other dead singers. Hence we get Marc Bolan, Kurt Cobain and even Jimi Hendrix in the unmistakable Presley style.

The architect of this bizarre

conceit is Jim Brown, a 31-year-old father of five from Belfast who has taken a twoyear sabbatical from his job as a postman to have a crack at becoming the world's most fa-



mous ersatz Elvis. So far it seems to be working. Brown has been signed by EMI, John Peel has enthusiastically championed his album Gravelands and an appearance on Chris Evans's TFI Friday ensured that this London date sold out so quickly that a second had to be added the following night.

The logic, if there is any, is that Elvis never wrote his own. material, so why not cover a few that he never got around to recording? As a piece of nos-talgic wish-fulfilment it had its attractions. The King hit the stage with a tough-sounding, rock band and gave us the Presley we would all prefer to remember—raunchy, leather-clad Elvis rather than the bloated Las Vegas Elvis.

Surprisingly the audience was young and studentish, many of them not even born when Presley died in 1977. Brown himself was only ten at the time, but has learnt to play his part stylishly. The more unlikely the cover, the better he carried off the joke. A version of No Woman No Cry that blandly segued into Can't Help Falling in Love was pointless, for it was all too pos-sible to imagine the real Preside ley of later years stripping Bots. Marley's classic of its dignity. But Presley would surely never have sung Joy Division's Love Will Tear Us Apart, Thin Lizzy's Whiskey in the Jar or Hendrix's Voodoo Chile, which made Brown's render-

than a night down the pub with a karaoke machine. What his success says about the state of modern music is another matter.

> .NIGEL WILLIAMSON

VALIDERILE PLT1 RSR 9987

THE MEMORY OF WATER

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See 7.45 Mars Tur & Sat 300

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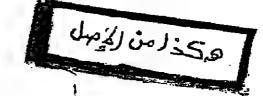
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This successful UK practice continues to more from strength to strength and currently seeks employment lawyers with 1-7 years' pipe. The firm promises an interesting and diverse caseload, drawn from an enviable client portfolds, comprising both contentious and non-rententiates work if you are easier for a ground edger of autonomy in your work, an excellent salary and good career prosperts, this may be the position for you (ReC 24677)

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Closing date for the return of applications; 29 January 1999. Interviews are to be held at Aldershot Magistrates' Court on 10 February 1999. For an application form and information package, please telephone

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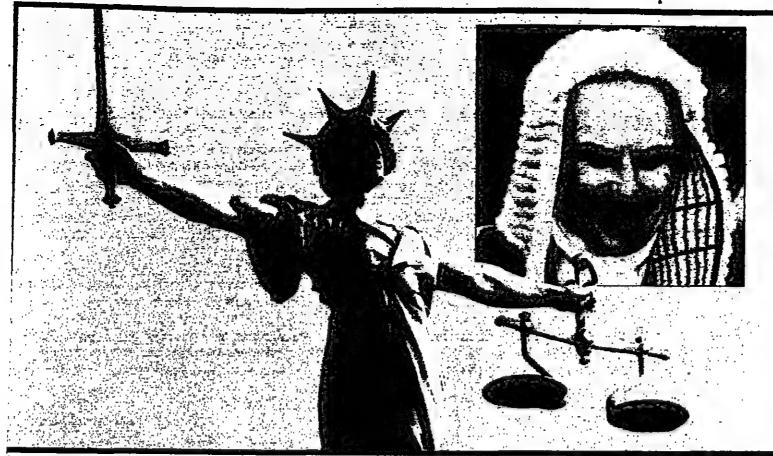
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as the law lords prepare to return to the Pinochet case, two QCs examine the issues raised by Lord Hoffmann's actions



Lord Hoffmann and Justice: "Bias - partiality - must connote something more than preconceptions, or prejudices," writes Sir Louis Blom-Cooper

Bias, prejudice and the Pinochet case

talk in the Temple and divided the talkers so deeply as the rights and wrongs of the Pinochet affair. But the central issue of whether heads of state are immune for acts of state considered by the international community to be heinous crimes is not up for debate here. That will be for the House

of Lords appellate committee next Monday. The hearing fol-lows the setting-aside of the lows the setting-aside of the Supreme Court once stood their favour and may have riginal ruling by three to two down in a case involving the been confident of keeping their lenying General Pinochet any mmunity.

rocedure for disclosure by dges of potential conflicts of terest and the law's appach to what is - often glib-— described as bias on the nt of decision-makers. Nor-nlly in litigation, a party to a dpute may perceive a disadvatage to itself in the judge (o judges) assigned to the ca. This occurs mostly at the tri stage; rarely does it arise or appeal because appeal cort judges are not the primaryact-finders. The party per-ceibly prejudiced will apply for the trial judge to stand den and be replaced if the

ca of bias is made good. ften an appointed judge winitiate disclosure of a possit conflict of interest and set the parties' reactions. Oftexthe interest is not such as torouse perturbation; the partic readily acknowledge that it ill not affect the judge's judial approach to the case and dnot seek his or her removal. ecasionally, though, the



The judiciary's approach to bias by decision-makers poses disturbing questions, says Sir **Louis Blom-Cooper**

Justice Frankfurter of the US validity of the musical output winnings.
over the address systems of But who

Associate Justice find the imposed music that he felt. he could not remain unaffected in the courtroom by his personal distaste for the transport company's activities. Had Lord Hoffmann per-ceived himself to

similarly placed, he would have disqualified himself or, having disclosed his association with Amnes-

in judgment. The objectors, if any, would have been the Pinochet supporters. If they knew of Lord Hoffmann's connection at the time of Amnesty's intervention, they might still have thought it wise to forgo any objection. After all, they had the judgment of Lord Bingham of judges would privately sub-

judge will remove himself. Mr .. Cornhill, the Lord Chief Justice, and his two colleagues in their favour and may have

But what about the party In the meantime, there are the public buses in Washing that might conceivably gain isturbing features about the ton DC. So disturbing did the some advantage from having

a friend on the bench? When Amnesty International applied to intervene in the proceedobjectors ings before the law lords: presumably it was then (or soon after) aware that Hoffmann have been was to sit. Whatever advantage it might thereby gain, were not its Pinochet

ent's link with Lord Hoffmann? I think ty International, asked if the so; and I speak as a founder parties objected to his sitting member of Amnesty in 1961. Maybe the law lords think so, too. Certainly such disclosure would have avoided the bias issue clouding the proceedings. It may be that Amnesty and its lawyers thought there was no issue of bias. After all, it might be assumed - (rightly, one

lawyers obliged to disclose their cli-

tions and applying the law as they understand it, "without Lord Hoffmann was only fear or favour".

more transparently overt about his support than his brother judges. Therein lies the rub. Are we not all confusing preconceptions with bias, only the latter evoking any sense of judicial impropriety? We are all born with predisposition. The process of educa-

tion and socialisation creates attitudes that affect each one of us in judging situations, attitudes that precede reasoning in particular instances and which, by definition, are prejudices. Without acquired preconceptions, life could not go on. Were these prejudements. or habits, absent and the individual obliged to treat every event as a precedent presenting wholly novel problems, he or she would go mad.

Bias - in other words, partiality — must connote some-thing more than preconcep-tions (or prejudices). To be biased is deliberately to take on an attitude that is in a different dimension to the essential characteristic of the sensate human being. But preconceptions may be perceived, rightly or wrongly by the reasonable onlooker, as indicating bias.

Originally, of course, disclosure by judges in private litigation was confined to their pecuniary interests. It is easier to identify a relative financial interest than it is to discern a pertinent political or social

A civilised society should assume that its senior judges will all have the aptitude and arrinide, when sitting in judgment on fellow human beings. of recognising their preconcep-

Should a judge have outside interests?

Pannick QC

Lord Chancellor, commented that it was "in the highest degree unfortunate" that the law lords had to reopen the 3-2 decision that General Pinochet was not entitled to immunity from extradition to Spain. There was the appearance of bias by Lord Hoffmann, one of the law lords in the majority, who had failed to declare his links with Ampesty International, a party to the appeal. The Lord Chancellor suggested that there was no point in "cry-ing over spilt milk" but that it was necessary to "put procedures in place to ensure that this does not happen again".

The law lords should recognise the need for

such procedures, After all, as Lord Hoffmann himself observed in another

judgment in December, there are a number of "cases in which one feels that a slight change in the composition of the Appellate Committee would have set the law on a different course". The new procedures should be based on four main principles.

The first is that judges should not be required to avoid outside interests. It is highly desirable that our judges play a part in communal activities, displaying (and encouraging other lawyers to display) a sense of civic re-sponsibility by commitment to good causes. As the great American Judge Benjamin Cardozo
emphasised: The great tides
and currents which engulf the
rest of men do not turn aside in their course

and pass the judges by."

Today's law lords should not be required to follow the example of one of their predecessors - as reported by Shimon Shetreet in Judges on Trial (1976) - who was so concerned about avoiding any hint of partiality that "since his appointment as a High Court judge he had never cast a vote in a general election". The quality of the beach, and of public life in general, would be severely diminished were it to become a condition of appointment that judges should agree to monastic exclusion from com-

mitment to any controversial cause. The second principle is that the personal interests of the judge should be declared. To enable the parties to decide whether to object to a particular judge hearing the case, to reduce the risk of allegations of bias and to encourage judges to recognise the need to keep an open mind, transparency is necessary in relation to any factor which links the judge to any party or witness or issue in the case.

 Sir Louis Blom-Cooper is the co-author, with Professor Gavin Drewy, of Final Appeal: a Study of the House of Lords in its Judicial Capacity (Clarendon Press). The third principle is that the general interests and attitudes of the judge do not make it inappropriate for that judge to hear the case unless he or she is incapable of deciding the case ions do not disqualify a judge who is able and willing to consider the case with an open mind. An extreme example of this principle in ac-tion was the conviction of Adolf Eichmann by the Israeli District Court of war crimes and crimes against the Jewish people. The Su-preme Court rejected his argument on appeal in 1962 that the reactions of any Jewish judge to the Holocaust meant that the court was "incapable of giving the appellant an objective trial". The Supreme Court agreed with the Dis-trict Court that "once this case has been brought before us, it becomes our duty to control even these emotions when we sit in judgment". That is what being a judge demands.

The fourth principle is that, however confident the judge may be of an ability to decide the case fairly and objectively, a specific judicial link with the parties may be so close that the appearance of bias makes the involvement of that judge inappropriate in the particular case.

A decision of Lord Chancellor Cottenham was quashed by the House of Lords in 1852 because he was a shareholder in a company that was a party to the action. In Texas in 1925, the entire mem-pership of the state Supreme Court excused itself from hearing a case involving an organisation known as Woodmen of the World. All the judges were members, and so the Governor ap-

pointed a special court of three women (no doubt in the confident expectation that such an organisation would not admit women into membership). In 1994 the Supreme Court of Arkansas held that a judge should not have au-thorised the release of her boyfriend from cus-

As Lord Irvine of Lairg pointed out, the un-fortunate experience of the Pinochet case makes it necessary to improve judicial procedures. But the concept of bias raises complex questions about the nature of adjudication. We must be careful not to neuter our judges by deterring them from involvement in communal activities. We should recognise that links with the parties raise greater concerns about the appearance of bias than prior expressions of judicial opinion. And we should accept that impartiality means an open mind, not a mind which has given no prior thought to the issues. As the American judge Jerome Frank said, if we define "bias" to mean "the total absence of preconceptions in the mind of the judge, then no one has ever had a fair trial and no one ever will".

• The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

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By that criteria, Lord Hoff-

mann, by his formal link with

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displayed publicly his precon-

ceptions in the area of human

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A early day motion by th solicitor-MP Andrew Dmore calling for the supping of QCs is provin popular among La-ber backbenchers. So fa the motion, which arges that no Bill to moderise justice would be coplete unless it put an end to the "ex- be suffering from a sense of deja vu. For

pesive and anachronistic silk system, bil just before Christmas.

bek for an end to wigs which - he says -nave "become positively damaging to the civil justice system." And Galdine Clark, a barrister changing

tion to a fashion shoot, showing herself swinging along, frouser suit blowing in the wind. ☐ GEOFF HOON must

Inn Square, has put out a notice more like an invita-

supporters

the second time in six months, the deputy h received 82 signatures since it was ta- to the Lord Chancellor has been poised for promotion to Paymaster General. only to have the chance snatched away at NEW YEAR, new image. Sir Richard the last minute. When Hoon was last tipped to replace Geoffrey Robinson at dision, calls in the Inner Temple year dision, calls in the Inner Temple year. Blair to keep Robinson. This time Robinson's resignation put the promotion back on the agenda. But the post went to Dawn Primarolo amid reports that Lord

chambers to 4/5 Gray's Irvine of Lairg wanted to keep Hoon to steer through his legal aid reforms.

> ☐ CONDITIONAL FEE work is taking off. New Court Chambers will hold a seminar at Middle Temple Hall on Thursday from 6.30pm on all aspects - insurance, risk assessment and case studies (details: 0171-583 5123) - and on February 1 a "roadshow" takes place at the Law Socie-ty sponsored by Medical Litigation on the growing role of insurers in medical "no win, no fee" claims (details: Geoffrey Hall 01494-792 621).

> ☐ CHAMBERS, the Radio 4 legal comedy by Inns of Court School of law lecturer Clive Coleman, is recording a new series at Broadcasting House on February 21. Tickets from 0171-765 4137 or e-mail radio.



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Litigation: will it be a free-for-all?

Compensation culture rules in America but not here — at least not yet, says Gary Slapper

happens in America inevitably reachour shores, even in the lesystem. Yet although ress reports show a rise in igh-profile compensation aims, we have not yet fallen rey to the tricky and dangerus kind of litigation that has ngulfed America, where ven teachers applying suncreen to their pupils have een sued by parents.

The evidence suggests that ve are holding fast against his style of lingation; we ave been bringing fewlegal actions each

ear. Cases such as those of Luke Ratcliff and Heny White, though from juite different walks of ife, have both featured ecently in what some observers have seen as a developing pattern of judicial decisions to steer us away from becoming a compensation-obsessed culture by blocking paths to the

In 1994, Luke Ratcliff was 19-year-old student at Harper Adams Agricultural College in Newport, Shropshire. One night he went out drinking with friends and, after about four pints, climbed over a college wall and dived into a swimming pool at 2.30am, hitting his head on the bottom. Serious head injuries left him in a wheel-

Earlier this month the Court of Appeal ruled that he was to blame for his injuries and could not expect compensation from the college for not having taken greater steps to prevent him falling into the pool. Lord Justice should not be framed to bur-

m

Stewart-Smith said that Mr Ratcliff was aware of the risk and willingly accepted it.

In the same week as the Court of Appeal's decision, the House of Lords gave its judgment in the case of police officers who were suing over the Hillsborough foothall stadium disaster in 1989 in which 96 people were killed and another 700 in-

The Lords ruled that Henry White, and other police officers who suffered psychiatric injury as a result of being in the aftermath, were not en-

'What is one man's frivolous litigation is another's test case'

> titled to recover damages against the Chief Constable of South Yorkshire Police. who had admitted negligence by his force.

> The police officers argued. however, that as victims of an admitted tort, they were owed compensation. Rejecting their arguments. Lord Steyn noted: "We do not live in a Utopia; we live in a practical world where

the tort system imposes limits to the classes of claims that rank for consideration." This recalls the dictum of Chief Justice Cardozo, a renowned American judge who, in 1931, made the definitive statement in warning against any new law that would "open the floodgates" and inundate courts with claims. He said that law

den possible defendants with "liability in an indeterminate amount for an indeterminate time to an indeterminate

Anyone who applauded decisions such as those in the swimming pool or Hillsborough cases on the basis that they will deter a growing body of writ-happy citizens has no reason to be concerned, The Judicial Statistics, published by the Lord Chancellor's Department (LCD), reports that 153,624 writs and originating sum-monses were issued in 1995

in the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court - where all the main alleged wrongs against people and property are heard — a fall of 2 per cent since 1994. The LCD records a further fall: 121,446 actions were begun in the QBD in 1997, 15 per cent

down on 1996. This pattern is reflected in county court summonses. The Judicial Statistics for 1995 notes a decrease in the work of the county courts since 1992. The 1995 figure of 2,445,248 plaints entered continued a downward trend and was 8 per cent less than in 1994. The 1997 report notes the "steady decrease in the work of the county courts in recent years", and a further 5 per cent drop in actions to 2,208,878.

Nick Armstrong, a solicitor with Irwin Mitchell, has noted that, despite the fall in recorded actions, the insurance industry states that the number of claims made is ris-

The Medical Defence Union reports a recent rise of 30



per cent in annual payouts, but, as Dr Armstrong observes, that might reflect merely a rise in the quantum of damages per claim, rather than a rise in the number of

Dr Armstrong argues that it is in the public interest for challenging and novel actions to be brought. "What one" and that it wishes to is one man's frivolous litigabring about "a significant intion is another's test case," he crease in access to justice". If argues. "and what is one this aim is achieved, it will man's litigation explosion is surely follow that society beanother's access to justice." comes more littigious. Modernising Justice, the

Government's recent White Paper, says that "the legal ● Dr Slapper is director of the Open University's Law system should be for every-

A firm bond of partners

Like a modern marriage, a merger is hard to forge, says Edward Fennell

oyal marriages and law firm mergers have much in common. They don't always work out and pre-engagement negotiations can drag on. Nonetheless, the word from well-informed sources last week was that the former big-name firms Theodore Goddard and Richards Butler, perhaps inspired by the example of Prince Ed-ward and Sophie Rhys-Jones, will be announcing their engage-ment by the end of the month.

Peter Kavanagh, the managing director of Theodore Goddard, tried to play down the mounting excitement, saying: "It is essential that a merger of this kind has a high level of support, so we are taking a lot of

time to explain to partners what it means to them as individuals as well as what it signifies for the business as a whole. At this stage I cannot give a date for any forannounce-

"It was love at first sight. when they saw each other's turnovers" Mr Kavanagh is

prudent to be circumspect in his comments. These talks started out as a three-way merger with Denton Hall as the third player. Back in October, Denton Hall decided to pull out due to difficulties in meshing together the various offices in Hong Kong. All three firms used to be high

in the league table of size. They have dropped down the ladder but merger negotiations have to traverse dangerous territory. James Dallas, the chairman of Denton Hall, says: "Because of the growth of international offices, merger discussions are much more complex than a decade ago. Rather than just a couple of London offices, you may be try-ing to match half a dozen offices worldwide and that could be very complicated."

Such proved to be the case dur-

ing last year's proposed link-up between Wilde Sapte and Arthur Andersen. There were early signs that Wilde Sapte's Paris partners were not happy with the deal.

By the time negotiations were broken off, several key Wilde Sapte partners had left and Arthur Andersen had received a severe blow to its strategic plans. Andersen admits that it has

given up any thought of a largescale merger with a law firm in London, despite the fact that it had declared this

to be its strategic route forward. One merger we can expect to see consummated lat-

er this year, howevis between Beachcroft Stanleys Wansbroughs Willey Hargrave.

This extended engagement process has benefited from the political skills of Hunt worth, the former Cabinet minister under Margaret

Thatcher, who has been able to bring his formidable charm and powers of negotiation to the deal.

As a merger between a medi-um-sized London practice and a medium-sized regional firm, it has not had to wrestle with complex multi-office managers. s Lord Hunt says: "A cli-

ent survey revealed to us we overwhelmingly that we had to go national. So we wanted to find a firm that mirrored our strength but was outside London. We were delighted when we met Wansboroughs." Above all, though, the part-

ners of the firms have devel-oped into good friends during their courtship.And that, as Prince Edward points out, is pretty important for a success-

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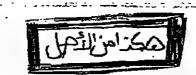
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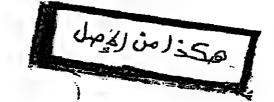
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desirable, but is not necessary for the right person This represents a unique opportunity for an insurance litigator to enjoy a true commercial role in an organisation with exceptional growth potential.

For further information in complete confidence, please call Guy Moran or Catherine Brown on 0171 269 2231. or write to them enclosing your current CV and salary details at Michael Page Legal, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London, WC2B 5LN or fax 0171 405 2936. e-mail: guymoran@michaelpage.com

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Asset Management ABN-AMRO Lawyer



ABN AMRO is a major global bank with a strong international focus. With almost 65,000 employees and a global processes in 71 countries, the bank's main competitive advantage lies in belonging to an extensive worldwide network, which enables it to offer a wide range of products and services in the fields of both commercial and investment banking. Which total assets of US\$414 billion, ABN AMRO ranks as the 4th largest bank in Europe and the 8th largest bank in the world. The London business of the bank continues to grow and prestigious new premises are to be occupied during 1999.

London

£ Investment Banking Package

and business people at all levels.

The London Legal Department provides general legal and secretariat services to the Asset Management Group, and now requires a lawyer to be dedicated to this business. The Asset Management Group is 80 strong and works in three main areas, management and marketing of Retall funds and management of Fixed Income institutional and Private Client mandates. The successful candidate will work across all of these areas, carrying out a wide range of work including reviewing and negotiating investment management contracts, custody agreements and counterparty documentation such as ISDA's, ISMA's and terms of business. Day-to-day Italson with the compliance function will be required and there will be involvement in new product development. Knowledge of LIK and offshore collective investment schemes is essential, whilst some knowledge of pension law would be useful.

- Your profile: ◆ 2-4 years relevant post qualification experience.
- Currently working in an in-house asset management team or within a specialist department of a premier law film.
- ◆ Adaptable and flexible with the tact, diplomacy and strength of character to deal with senior management
 - · Confident and with sufficient commercial acumen to work calmly under pressure to meet tight deadlines.

This is an outstanding opportunity to work closely with the business in one of Europe's largest investment banking organisations. The remuneration package will reflect ABN AMRO's policy of rewarding excellence. If you would like to find out more about this opportunity please contact Catherine Brown, the exclusively retained consultant on 0171 269 2484 or send your CV to her at Michael Page Legal, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LN, fax 0171 405 2936. Please quote ref 465687. e-mail: cetherinebrown@michaelpage.com

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COMPANY SECRETARY

North West

Stanley Leisure pla

Excellent **Package**

Stanley Leisure is a major force in the UK leisure industry. Fully listed, with a turnover in excess of £400 million, the Group has generated substantial recent growth both organically and by acquisition. The sector offers significant future potential not only for the Group's existing businesses but also for complementary activities. As a result, the Group has a requirement to identify a high calibre individual, as Company Secretary, to contribute to the business within this challenging environment.

THE POSITION

- Reporting to the Board of Directors, this role will be responsible for the full range of company secretarial duties associated with a plc
- Provide assistance and guidance to the Directors in their pursuit of their business objectives and play a central role in the governance of the company.
- Develop the company secretariat as a core support function adding value to the business.
- QUALIFICATIONS
- Proven track record of operating as a company secretary, either as a qualified accountant, chartered secretary or with a legal qualification.
- Highly professional individual able to operate in a plc environment, demonstrating a proactive and efficient approach.
- Strong technical knowledge with excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

This is an outstanding opportunity for an individual to develop their career and be part of a growing organisation.

Interested candidates should write enclosing full career details, current salary and where possible a daytime telephone number, quoting reference 2558 to Robert Berkeley, Consumer Division, Questor International, 3 Burlington Gardens, London W1X 1LE. Tel 0171 292 8300. Fax 0171 287 5457, e-mail: claire@questorint.com



Ashursts - Pensions

Maria Stimpson has joined Ashursts' Employment and Benefits Group as partner leading the Pensions Practice and is recruiting additional solicitors, at all levels, to the pensions team.

For ambitious lawyers who would like to be involved in developing a pensions practice, this promises to be an exciting opportunity.

It will be a challenge, fun and rewarding. The success of the team will be your success.

If you would like to join a firm with a culture for developing individuals within a team atmosphere, open communication and supervision, and above all a desire that everyone should enjoy what they do, you should apply to us.



Please write enclosing your CV to Stuart Walker at Ashurst Morris Crisp, Broadwalk House, 5 Appoid Street; London, EC2A 2HA.

Alternatively if you would like to discuss the opportunities within the Pensions Group please call Maria on 0171 972 7114.

Harney Westwood & Riegels

s the largest law firm in the ABVI. Harney Westwood & Riegels plays a major role in the

commercial and financial life of this thriving offshore jurisdiction. The firm acts for blue chip global banks, top City and international law firms and European and Far Eastern investment funds.

It is undergoing a period of steady expansion and has recruited several solicitors from leading City firms over the past few years. These lawyers have settled in well.

The excellent quality of life in the BVI is widely known. Those who have made the move have subsequently remarked upon the predominantly international nature and broad range of work on offer.

BRITISH VIRGIN

The firm has now identified the need for two further solicitors:

ISLANDS Corporate and Finance Suitable candidates will have between two and four years'

pge. The work includes advising on and documenting a range of international finance and corporate transactions including share purchases, share issues, secured lending, acquisition financing and project financing, joint ventures and stock exchange listings.

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A two-to-four year qualified funds solicitor is sought for the full range of regulatory and transactional matters involving investment funds and commercial trusts. Candidates with venture capital experience are also encouraged to apply.

Salaries are in line with those of the major City law firms. For the right people, partnership prospects are excellent. For further details, please ring David Woolfson, or send him your Cv.

23 LONG LANE, LONDON EC1A 9HL TELEPHONE: (0171) 606 8844 FAX: (0171) 600 1793

LEADING FINANCIAL SERVICES GROUP

PROJECTS & OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

c. £90,000

Our client is one of the largest financial services groups in the UK. A UK based pic, the group is a leading provider of global services to the retail sector, multinational corporations and financial institutions. The General Counsel has introduced a range of legal risk management initiatives resulting in a highly focused and forward thinking legal team. In addition, the administrative support areas of the legal and secretarial departments have been streamlined to increase operational effectiveness. A Projects and Operations Director is now required to ensure that the achievements to date are maximised and developed and the business objectives are fully supported.

The Position

- Reporting to the General Counsel you will deliver a highly efficient operational and administrative support function.
- Execute and develop planned and innovative projects linked to the successful initiatives now in place.
- Plan and project manage strategic initiatives for external law firm management and best practice guidance.
- Support the administration of the legal and company secretarial teams in relation to budgets, human resource

The Requirements

- A lawyer, management consultant or operations director who routinely operates within a legal environment.
- Experience in change management projects, IT systems and the design and implementation of policy and strategy
- Strong knowledge of the legal marketplace and UK and
- M A leader with strong management and communication skills who is solutions orientated with the vision and presence to work effectively at senior executive and

Please send your CV with current salary details to: Daniel Richards, K/F Selection, 252 Regent Street, London W1R 6HL, quoting ref: 06528I/01.

Alternatively send by fax on 0171-312 3380 or by e-mail to kis-london@komferty.com
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Day-to-day work would encompass hardware and software procurement, development and licensing Issues together with outsourcing and vendor management in an international context. across the Group's various businesses. The successful candidates (one with probably 5+ years' pop and the other with 3 years') will have

gained experience in an IT law unit in private practice or the in-house legal department of a technology vendor and will have:

- excellent non-contentious IT experience (though some contentious exposure would be useful) - a thorough grounding in IP issues
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er in its advisory or legislative role, in the conduct of its litigation or prosecution work, or in more specialised areas, the GLS needs lawyers with the ability to handle complex work and who have an interest in the public service.

All GLS posts are open to both solicitors and barristers...

The GLS now wishes to fill a number of vacancies in the Departments and Agencies listed below. Most of these are in London, although the Land Registry has vacancies in various locations across the UK, the Office of Water Services has a vacancy in Birmingham and the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board has two posts on a fixed-term contract in Glasgow.

- Department of the Environment & the Regions
- Home Office
- HM Land Registry
- Inland Revenue
- Department of Trade and Industry Treasury Solicitor's Department
- Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food
- Department of Social Security/Department
- of Health
- Criminal Injuries Compensation Board
- Law Commission
- Office of Water Services

Additional vacancies may arise in these and other Departments.

The basic salary at Legal Officer level ranges from not less than £22,134 to £35,203 in London and at Grade 7 from £28,151 to £47,172 in London, in addition, there may be $\alpha^{}$. few places for highly qualified and experienced candidates at Grade 6 level with salary in the range £32,100 to £52,200 in London. Level of appointment to the GLS and starting salary will depend on the candidate's qualifications and experience. Where appropriate, candidates may be offered a starting salary above the minimum. For further information and an application

pack, contact

The GLS Recruitment Team, Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 91S. Tel: 0171-210 3304. Email: info.gls@gmet.gov.uk

English speaking Revenue HM CUSTOMS & EXCISE lawyer, fluent in French, wanted for ternatinal practice with leading law firm in Paris. STRATEGIC TRANSFER OF THE ESTATE TO THE France. Please send

PRIVATE SECTOR CV to: (STEPS): APPOINTMENT OF LEGAL ADVISER Mr. Armenindes, 13 avenue Hoche, Inland Revenue and HM Customs and Excise intend to invite tenders for the role of Legal Adviser to assist and advise them on establishing a long term contract with the private sector involving the transfer of ownership of their property assets and the provision of serviced accommodation to meet their operational needs. The two estates comprise in total 1.6 million square metres and extend to some 750 properties across 75008 Paris.

The role is expected to last for about two and a half years. Contractors will be expected

 significant experience of very large scale property portfolio transactions; expertise in international capital markets financing techniques and in particular, securitisation and of asset backed finance; experience of PFI/PPP;

 experience and understanding of EU procurement regulations; and the breadth and depth of resource with the relevant expertise and experience to meet the demands of a transaction of this size and complexity.

Stitably experienced contractors wishing to express an interest in tendering for this work are asked to complete a questionnaire, which can be obtained from: Simon Barnicott

Inland Revenue Estate Management Unit PO Box 20, Castle Meadow Road **NOTTENGHAM NG2 1BA** Telephone: 0115 974 0770 Facsimile: 0115 974 0790

Contractors may be requested to clarify information provided or to submit supplementary documents before senders are invited. The closing date for receipt of expressions of interest and completed questionnaires will be noon on 11th February 1999. Invitations to tender will be issued in early March.

(33) 1 53 96 03 83 law@lalparis.com

CLERK TO THE GENERAL COMMISSIONERS Division of Salford and Manchester North

menal Commissioners for the above Loveson strains point a Gierk to take up daties in 1989 to succeed recent Clerk who is doe to swire. The appointment in to Barristers or Solicitors. The structure of Tax-peals as well as remanderation is presently under two. Anyone interested in this appointment should the structure of the strain appointment should the structure of the strain appointment whealth the structure of the strain appointment should the structure of the strain appointment the strain appointment the strain appointment the strain appointment to the strain appointment and the strain appointment appointment appointment as the strain appointment shire SK9 2.5Y.

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An expanding young London common law set has vacancies for established practitioners in the field of Housing, Personal Injury, Family, Crime and

niries, which will be treated in the strictess

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Maria Harris

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Closing date for submission of applications is 9am on Wednesday 27 January 1999.

The GLS is an equal opportunities employer.

RACING: JOCKEY CLUB RAISES STAKES IN HIGH-PROFILE CASES OF MISUSE

Whip bans to carry more sting

By RICHARD EVANS

JOCKEYS who breach the whip rules in major races will be referred automatically to Portman Square and face a minimum ten-day ban as part of a new crackdown on whip abuse announced by the Jockey Club yesterday. The move is effective from March 1. -

If the deterrent fails to work. riders could lose their winning percentage of prize-money -worth up to £20,000 in a classic such as the Vodatione

The radical package of mea-sures — which includes compulsory seminars for riders, races where the whip cannot be used and the introduction of "equine friendly" whips follows a number of high-profile races last summer in which top riders flagrantly gnored the rules in pursuit of ig-race glory. Olivier Pesiier was suspen-

ded after hitting High-Rise too many times when winning the Derby, but the worst case came in the group one International Stakes at York in August, when a thrilling three-way photo finish ended with Pat Eddery, Frankie Dettori and Kieren Fallon receiving bans totalling 15 days for mis-

use of the whip. The Jockey Chub action is not only aimed at curbing jockeys on the big occasion, but is the latest signal that the wel-fare of the horse and racing's public image is now a priority among racing's rulers.

Christopher Spence, senior steward of the Jockey Club,



The finish of the International Stakes at York which cost Fallon, left, Dettori, centre, and Eddery a total of 15 days in whip bans.

said: "This package of measures clearly demonstrates that ... important race". we remain committed to setting new standards aimed at used for safety, correction and

encouragement only." The Jockey Club is adamant that racing suffers when sus-pensions are imposed at highprofile meetings, invariably covered by television, "and it does appear that sometimes

jockeys ignore the whip in-

struction when riding in an The major races which will

warrant an automatic referral safeguarding the welfare of to the Jockey Club's disciplithe horse and improving the cuality of riding. The Jockey breach the whip rules include the classics and group one raced that the whip should be es, as well as all grade one raced. es over jumps, such as the Cheltenham Gold Cup and Champion Hurdle.

Flat races with a total prize fund of £140,000 and jump races with £80,000 prize-money will also be covered, aking with a host of other wellknown races including the

Long bandicaet, hest Litzia 6-13

(£3,666: 3m) (6 numers)

BETTIME: 11-8 Kings Meesins, 5-2 Robbo, 11-4 Lord Podysk, 12-1 Berned Seven, 25-1 Just Lizzie, 50-1 Just

ROBBO was again unfactly to find one too good last time and, oil the same mark, may now go one bette

Bhasaer Moret bead Bodd Action. 16° in 12-maner portice chase at Novetastie (Box, poot to motils; provincely basers a difference but of 3 to Bokes in visces— cap herein in Winnerboy (Box 41 116) et group). Manasters beams a dissess-ai chase at baydock (2no 41, soft), provincely beat Air Françippari Si to 9-res-

3.10 ADVENT RACECOURSE CATERING HOVICES CHASE

3.40 DONCASTER BLOODSTOCK SALES/EBF MARES STANDARD

WYNYARD DANCER showed promise on her only start lest assess and should give a good at

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Lingfield: 1.30 Callitwhatyouwant,

COURSE SPECIALISTS

P Hillian Parker A Dobbin R McGtath B Storey R Supple L Wyer R Harrison

OPEN NH FLAT (£1,532: 2m) (11 runners)

TRAINERS

L Lungo P Monieth Courton M Moore

Itsalihappening, Zola Power. .

BRREGURRA KATE (P Needkom) P Needkom 6-11-04- CDLMARANN 323 (K Fisher) like 5 Smith 7-11-4 — 40 DLM ROSE 48 Meis R (Causing 4) Story 5-11-4 — KATE MURPHY (P Neophy) D Story 5-11-4 — KATE MURPHY (P Neophy) D Story 5-11-4 — CONTROL (CAUSING 1) P Neophy M Story 5-11-4 — CONTROL (CAUSING 1) P Neophy M Story 5-11-4 — WIGHTRY DANGER 48 (J Robord) J Controls 6-11-4 — WIGHTRY DANGER 48 (J Robord) J Controls 6-11-4 — WIGHTRY DANGER 48 (J Robord) J Controls 6-11-4 — WIGHTRY DANGER 48 (J Robord) J Controls 6-11-4 — WIGHTRY DANGER 48 (J Robord) J Controls 6-11-6 — REMEMBER EXUNANCE (K Shirt) D Eddy 4-10-5 — REMEMBER EXUNANCE (K Shirt) D Eddy 4-10-5 —

days will be imposed.
"The [disciplinary] committee considered removing a jockey's winning percentage if race, but they have discounted it for the time being. However, it will be kept in reserve if longer suspensions are not seen to be a sufficient deterrent," the Jockey Club statement added. Education is seen as the

Tote International Handicap (Ascot), the Tote Ebor (York),

(Ascot), the Tote Ebor (York), the Murphy's Gold Cup and Tripleprint Gold Cup (both Cheltenham), the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup and Tote Gold Trophy (both Newbury), the Greenalls Gold Cup (Haydock), the Martell Grand Na-

nional (Aintree) and the Whit-bread Gold Cup (Sandown).

If a jockey is found to be in breach of whip rules in those

races by local racecourse stew-

ards, he will be referred to the Jockey Club's disciplinary

committee and if they concur a minimum suspension of ten

long-term method of dealing with whip abuse and "continuation training" will be intro-duced for 71b claimers at the British Racing School. The Jockey Club is also planning a series of races for apprentices in which the whip may only be carried and not used". Cornpulsory seminars for all jockeys will start next year.

After talks with the Animal

Health Trust, the Jockey Club

Leicester off as frost bites

هري زامن ري مل

THE Leicester fixture scheduted for today has been abandoned because of frost and waterlogging, and Newcastle's meeting hinges on a 7.45am inspection.

David McAllister, clerk of the course at Newcastle, said: There are still traces of frost and snow on the track but we have had a good day with plenty of sunshine. However, the temperature is nearly at freezing again. If the forecast gradually becoming warmer is right we might be in with a chance."

Sedgefield will inspect today to determine prospects for tomorrow. Clerk of the course, John Cleverly, said: "Pros-pects are only 50-50."

mark for "equine friendly" whips. Work on the project is already underway and the RSPCA will be among those helping to oversee trials.

The disciplinary committee even considered restricting jockeys to using the whip in the less forceful "backhand" position only, but after taking advice from leading riders and the British Racing School "this was discounted for the time

ENGRED PARK

1.00 Mystagogue. 1.30 Vegas. 2.00 Facile Tigre. 2.30 Love Diamonds. 3.00 Pacific Alliance. 3.30

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

1.00 yarmouth claiming stakes (£2,558: 1m 5f) (6 runners)

101. (7) 00-0 PLYING EARLE 3 (F.S.S.) R Singson 8-9-10 ...S Drowing
102. (5) 61-0 PRINTE BANDS 10 CDB 14 Since 8-9-10 ...S Drowing
103. (2) 80-0 DEFT RAFT 36 (F.F.) 10 Since 8-9-10 ...L. Quin
104. (3) 10-0 Since 14 (7) Micro 0 Reference 9-9-10 ...L. Quin
105. (8) 10-13 ANSTADORE 5 (2) R HORROOM 9-9-1 ...R. Smith 1106. (1) 10-1 WINESE GROWING 77 Micro 14 Since 5-9-9 ...I Tale
106. (4) 10-5 MADDIAG CONSTRUCT (8, IS) (1, IS) (1

1.30 VENTHOR SELLING STAKES (3-Y-O £1,855: 7f) (12)

201 (12) 556- CALLITWHATYOUWANT 13 (E) J R Postons 8-11

2.00 BOOK A MEAL FOR VALENTINES DAY MANDICAP (£6,098; 51) (8)



2.30 SHAHKLIN HANDICAP(3-Y-0: £2,710: 1m) (6)

3.00 RACECOURSE & RAILWAY MAIDEN STAKES

2-1 Love Diamonds, 4-1 Jack Goodman, Paddock Inspection, 5-1 others.

3.30 NEWPORT APPRENTICE HANDICAP

[SHOWCASE HANDICAP] (\$2,068: 1m 2l) (9)

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Nrs A Peneri, 5 wones horo 23 rennes, 21 7%, R Armston 14 horo 73 19,2%, V Soone, 7 from 39, 17,9%, P Eccles, 3 trop 1, 17,6%, D Chapman, 17 horo 98, 17,3%, M Johnston, 44 from 250, 16,9%

Adrian Maguire had no luck at Fakenham yesterday when, after losing a race on Royal Castle in the stewards' room, he sprained his wrist when falling from King On The Run and was forced to give up his last two rides, one of which, Supreme Day, was successful.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Fontwell Park Going: soft 1,00 2m 2f 110yd hdie) 1, Homme de Fer Mr R Fornsial, 6-4 km/; 2, Kenryn Cata (33-1); 3, Catdamus (20-1) 15 ran, 5, 91 K Barley, Tote, 62-10: 61-30, 02.70, 05-20 DF 62-65, CSF: 508-43.

ES260, CSF: 355 43, 1.30 (3m. 2i 110yd ch) 1, Denam Baitlie (R Durwoody, 2-1), 2, Royal Torruny (20-1), 3, Bright Farme (S-1) Suprig Tel 6-4 bas, 8 ran Dat, 111, W Turner Tota: E330; 5: 110, E4.50, £1.20 DF: £22.70 CSF: £31 65 LASU, C1 20 UP: E22 70 CSP* E31 65 2.00 (2m 6) 110/d thele) 1. Sidpeant (J Culo-ty, 6-4 lav, Timelkeeper'in top resing); 2, Flamengo (11-2); 3, Below The Salt (50-1), 12 ran, 13, nk, Mass H Krepti Toter £2.30, £1.20, £2.00, £10.70 DF. £6.40, CSP £7.83

E7.83
2.30 (3m 21 10 yd ch) 1, Dancetilliyoudrop
(7 J Murphy, 3-1), 2, Nazzaro (11-4 fav), 5
ran. Dist. P. Nicholls, Tote, E3.80; E2.70,
E1.40 DF: E3.70 CSF, E10 10.
3.00 (2m 21 10 yd ndde) 1, Nordanski (J
Goldstein, 12-1), 2, Dancing Paddy (16-1),
Sheimur (2-1 fav) 8 ran. 71, 41 M Mado-wick Tote E10 50, E2 10, E4 10, E1 10, DF,
E26.50 CSF, E157.88, Tricast: £499.58 E2030 CSF: E157.69. Indiae 2499.00 D.D. (2m 3 ch) I., Vigota Revenge IF Hids; 20-11. 2. Chippeni (13-6 lav), 3, Smail Guy (100-1) 9 ran 6, 21 R Rowe. Tote. E17 10. E340, £1 10, £14 00. DF. E25 30. CSF: £49.94

23 30, CS*: 289,94 4.00 (27: 21 10) of Rail) 1, Arme Karmall (G Buppie, 5-1). 2, The Hill Has Moved (7-2 p-land, 3, Petternos Condrelle (10-1), Two Pad-dee (Sith) 7-2 p-lanv. 18 ren 111, 171, M Pipa. Tota: £7 60; £2.70, £2.00, £3.40. DF: £11 50, CSF: £23.14. Placepot: £52,70, Quadpot: £7.60.

Fakenham Going: good to soit, good in piece 1.40 (2m 110)c/cm 1, Country Star (S Bradley, 7-2); 2, Northern Saddler (11-2), 3, The Moor (11-4 lay) 7 ran 4, dist. E James, Tote £4.30; £2.90, £3.20 EF, £12.10 CSF; £19.42. 91.30, 22.90, 53.20 DF, E12.10 CSF; E19.42, 2.10 (2m 4f Helle) 1, Enrigal (R. Johnson, 7-2); 2, Poyal Castle (5-1), 3, Dragon Lord (6-4 km) 8 ran Hd, 3f D Nicholson Totol (5-5 0); 21.68, Royal Castle functed instibutiation at Bewards' inquery was placed second.
2.40 (2m 110yd ch) 1, Damper Plyson (W. Marston, 7-1), 2, Royal Scimitar (25-1), 3, Bubbles (Scing (6-5) King On The Pun 5-6 (av 7 ran, 29, dut Jun 9 Sty Tota 19 40; 23.70, 23.60 DF (27) 10 CSF (28) 82, 3-19 (2m 5-9) ch) 1, Tucktere Town (8 Fernander) 3.19 (2m 5⁴/₂ cm) 1, Tuckers Town (6 Fenton, 9-2; 2, Take Cover (9-1); 3, Salsong (5-1), Rossel Island (6th) 2-1 tav 9 rm 1¹/₄, 14 R Rows Tote (5 70, 52.90, 52.60, 52.70, DF £25 10, CSF, £40,34, Tucket £192,42 3.40 (2m 71 110yd hole) 1, Supresse Day (J R Kayenegh, 10-11 fay), 2, Lucky Massie 5-11: 3, Missed Cet (5-1) 10 ran, MR Rober-to Five. 2*1, des. D Nicholson, Tota: \$180; £1 10, £2.20, £2.00, DF, £9.00, CSF £6.24

Main SCOT MART LAD

(I.R) Newscatter

Scotter Lat palicies and
make the palicies of the
later the
late

Gology standard 12.20 (fml) 1, Ring Title Chief (G Hannon, 8-1), 2, Forest Roben (12-1); 3, Neczoramo (12-1), High Noon (4th) 4-1 k-lav, 14 ran, NR Far-So-La, Linguisto Dancer 4, 41 M Usher, 70te 0.99; 22.00, 23 60, 22 70 OF-922.00 CSF 938.09, Troast, £1,101.08, 12.50 (fml), Seinh (4th, 61) Honor, 9-1) 12.50 (1m) 1, Gaia Liase (G Harmon, 9-1), 2, Torn (4-1); 3, Moonight Fill (10-1), Tigal 3-1 (av. 15 ran. NR. Explosive Power, 4, 1'4 K Bell Tote, £15.10; £2.40, £1.80, £3.00 DF: £35.00 CSF; £40.96 Tocast, £356.56

E396.56 1.20 (7) I, Theatre Magic (N Polard, 6-2 tay; 2, Godinersham Park (7-1); 3, Arc (10-1) 11 ran. 14, 14, D Shaw. Tole E3 40, E1 10, E3.40, E3.50, DF E15.20 CSF E20.21, Tricast: £148.82. 2.20 (im 4) 1, A Day On The Dub (R Fitz-patrick, 7-2); 2, Le Sauvage (10-1); 3, Blue Hopper (R-4 I Lay) Beliestric 9-4 (Lay I nn, 1-14, 1-14) D. Edy), Tolke (59.5); Ch 40, 52.30, E1 30. DF: E22.40 CSF, E37.64 2.50 (fm 3) 1, China Castle (M Tebbut, 3-1 tay; 2, King Pisem (30-1), 3, Count de Money (11-2); 4, Evezo Rudo (25-1), 16 ran, Nt. 3 P Hestern, Tote: £2.90, £2.50, £5.30, £1.90, £3.10, DP: £58.00 Trifect 5.7,730 60 CSF £71.28 Tricast £321.53 2.20 (m) 1, Aleman Cavalier (P M Curv., 10-1), 2, Golden Byrup (10-11 lav); 3, Bur-tons Foly (100-30), 6 au. 14, 61, F Holins-head Toler P15 10; £8.20, £1 10, DF, £4 90 CSF: £18.50.

CSF: 2163W. Britishari (J Curm, B-1), 2, Ko-nevo (B-1), 3, Ention (16-1) Live Project 3-1 tav. 11 ran 14, 4t. Arts 5 Lamyman. Tota 59.80: 64.00, 62.20, 62.70 DF: 625.30 CSF: 627.43, Tropec: 61,072.67. Jackpot: not won (pool of £16,047.57 Placapot 1742-50. Quedpot 127.70



THUNDERER

3.10 Master Nova 3.40 Roman Uproar

1.10 SCOTMAIL LAD (nap). 2.40 Kings Measure

Timekeeper's top rating: 2.40 KING'S MEASURE

GOING: SOFT, HEAVY IN PLACES (INSPECTION 7.45AM).

1.10 sv Rutter Novices Huriole (£2,840; 2m 4f) (12 runners)

BETTORE 2-1 Scottsal Lad. 4-1 Asia: Piyer, 5-1 Lindsjane; 11-2 Global Legand, 6-1 Valigna, 12-1 High Pyer

Scotmel I ach ded Justoly Seneral a distance in 10-tumour novelex hards at Apr (2m 4, heavy); previously 564 4th of 19 to Assaile Bob in nivitate harding hundle at Heydock (2m 4, 1047), cells, greatesty 257 for 6 17 to 19 to Assaile Bob in nivitate harding hundle at Heydock (2m 7 to 1974), sells, greatesty 257 for 6 17 to 58 Bob in nivitate hordin at Newscastle (2m, good to soil) with Stateprare Boy (16 worse of). 744 10th and supposed Fourtien (10) wereas of) profest up. Astace Flyer 128 Bib. of 10 to Salest In ocusious novelex bardine statements for 17 and of 19 to Metable to covice hardle at Newscastle (2m 4, 1904), sells; previously 77 2nd of 8 to Symonds from an novela hardle at Heydock (2m, sony); previously 871 16th. High Pyrotees S3 7 th of 14 to Lord Lamb in novela-hardle at Newscastle (2m, sony); previously 427 6th of 19 to Lord Lamb in travitic hardle at Newscastle (2m 4, the sony); previously beaten at dissease 6th of 18 to Seniop Gensyl, it novice hardle at Newscastle (2m, heavy); previously beaten at dissease 6th of 8 to Seniop Gensyl, it novice hardle at Agr...

The soft, Suprestre Timpfile fall an novice hardle of Carriste (2m 4) 1910, theory); previously 736 4th of 12 to Fontewners in avoice hardle at Sengethed (2m 5) 1904, good).

Scottman 1 in avoice hardle at Sengethed (2m 5) 1904, good), write hardle have

1.40 POLYFLOR HANDICAP CHASE (£3,526; 3m) (4 namers)

27/07 NV HOUSE 36 (B.D.E.S) (single) J. (The T1-11-10 N Median S-11-5 A Borton 156-42: COMMUTED SCHEDULF 10 F.B.S) (Single) Personnin N Richard S-11-5 A Borton 156-12F MALANY 13 (B.D.D.S.) (W India) J. Lawren (S-11-5 S S

by Hause 111 in do 171 ip Prime German to American Care of American Care o

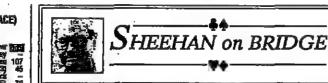
MY HOUSE, clear of the recognition when third in first-line bilinkers latest, leafs the one to best

2.10 STANLEY CASINO NOVICES CHASE (£3,631: 2m 4f) (6 runners)

BOBBY GRANT 15 (D.B.S) (J. Thompson) C Gard 8-11-5 ... C McCormack (3) REPRESENDE MAN 30 (5) (J. M. G Promotos Lid) 8 Rotterell 8-11-4 ... A S Shift 9-14-4 ... B Shift 9-14-4

1.40 by House

2.10 Storm Call



010982 # AK ▲ AK1094 **▲** 532 ♥AK9876 C Q 1042 ♦ K765 SLDAG

3 H 2 H 4 NT 5Ĉ 5 H Double 6 C Double Ali Pass

eral dubious calls. Colin Simpson drew a dummy containing two jokers as well as a couple of goodies in diamonds. But there was still a point of tech-

trumps immediately.

has been made more exciting by the presence of the Republic of Ireland who have rejoined the series after a long absence. In the first round Eire beat Wales 48-12, Scotland beat Northern Ireland 48-12 and

England had a bye.
In this second round
England, after losing the
first two sessions to Wales, rallied to take the third convincingly and beat Wales overall, 34-26. Northern Ireland, playing at home, beat Eire 33-27. while Scotland had a bye. In the next round England travel to Ennis to play Eire while Scotland play host to

Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

32 Qe1 33 Qd2

By RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Hastings final

Today I conclude my coverage of the Hastings Premier tournament, the UK's strongest all-play-all, with the complete crosstable of results and a last win by grandmaster John Emms. Over the past year or so Emms's results, which include a shared first place in the 1997 British championship, have gradually propelled

him into the upper echelon of British grandmasters. White John Emms Black: Laurent Fressinet

18 Rad1

Hastings Premier 1999 d4 49 VBB0+ 50 Qb5+ 51 Qa6+ 52 Qb5+ 53 Qc5+ 54 Qxe5 55 Kd2 56 Qc5 bxc6 Rb8 11 Nb6 59 Qb6+ 60 Qa6+ 61 Qb6+ 62 Qd8+ 63 Qd4 64 a6 65 a7 Kc6 Kb5

1 Sokolov 2 Sadler 3 Emms 4 Speelmat 5 Ponomerios 6 Shipov 7 Plaskett 8 Fressinet 9 Miles

WINNING MOVE

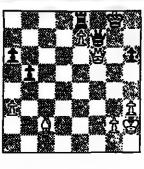
By Raymond Keene

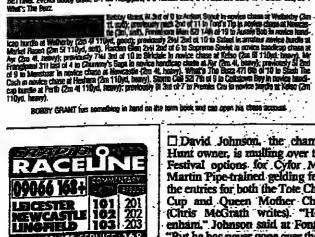
Rb5 Rd5

White to play. This position is from the game Lobron -- Lutz,

Germany, 1998. How can White make the most of his advanced e-pawn?

Solution on page 46





Cup and Queen Mother Champion Chase (Chris McGrath writes). "He loves Cheltenham." Johnson said at Fontwell yesterday.
"But he has never gone over the Gold Cup trip and we're in the dark whether he'll get it,

David Johnson, the champion National Hunt owner, is multing over the Cheltenham Festival options for Cyfor Malta, with the Martin Pipe-trained gelding featuring among the entries for both the Tote Cheltenham Gold horse they all have to beat To me, the Gold Cup looks a lot tougher." He will run next either in the Pillar Chase at Cheltenham on Saturday week, against See More Business and Escartefigue, or the Game Spirit Chase at Newbury a fortnight later.

• HEEHAN on BRIDGE By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent discussed the bidding on this TGR hand yesterday.

N-S game Rubber bridge AQJB76

Contract: Six Clubs doubled, by South, Lead: ace of spades.

After an auction with sev-This year's Camrose series

After ruffing the spade he crossed to dummy with a

club. He then carefully played a diamond to the queen. When that held he could draw the other trump, and run the ten of diamonds. Note the importance of the early diamond finesse - if he draws both trumps before tackling dia-monds, he cannot pick up East's king. And if West has no diamonds and two clubs (not likely after his Four No-Trump bid), the contract is not makeable even if he draws two

Welcs.

Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in

a. A dynasty

WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

TZOLKIN a. Blinis with caviare b. A Russian playwright c. A daft calendar

a. A public wash-house b. A suet dumpling.

b. A China

c. A type of lace SHAKUHACHI a. Raw tuna b. Mock fencing

Answers on page 46

By JOHN GOODBODY AND RAYMOND SNODDY

TONY BANKS yesterday gave warning of the damage to English football if the Premier League loses its legal rights to negotiate as a body for televising the national game. Speaking on the eve of the historic court case in London, the Minister for Sport publicly criticised the Office of Fair Trading (OFT), a govern-ment-funded body, which today begins its claim that the



Banks: implications

Premier League is acting as a cartel. The case, which is likely to last four months and cost £25 million, has already aroused widespread anger. Yesterday, Banks joined in the

He said: "If indeed the OFT were to find against the football authorities and the broadcasting authorities ... then there would be profound implications, damaging implica-tions for the whole structure of

football in this country." The OFT considers that in

rights collectively the clubs are acting as a cartel - one that would be unacceptable in any other industry. It claims that the cartel curtails choice and raises costs for television viewers, by preventing clubs from selling their rights independently and also restricting the number of games being shown on television.

Speaking in London at the launch of the Football Task Force's report on football in the community, Banks quoted John Bridgeman, the Director-General of Fair Trading, who said: "Any other business acting in this way would be sub-ject to competition laws and I see no reason why the selling of sports coverage should be reated differently."

Banks then claimed the difference was that "football is a sport that happens to be a busi-ness rather than a business that happens to be a sport".

He defended his right as a minister to make his views known - before the case be gins today in the Restrictive Practices Court — by saying that Bridgeman had been publicly quoted on the subject and that therefore he was entitled to comment.

The Premier League has already said that it will be "fighting for its life" in the case, the most expensive in British sporting history, because it is feared that ten clubs, including Arsenal and Manchester United, will break away and set up their own competition. The League believes the case

is damaging and a waste of money. It estimates its own costs at more than £7 million and believes that the other defendants, the BBC and BSkyB,



in which News International, owner of The Times, has a 40 per cent stake, will spend similar amounts. The BBC and Sky are, at present, parties to the £743 million four-year deal with the Premier League to screen matches and high-lights. The OFT will spend more than £2.5 million of taxpayers' money even before any possible appeal against a verdict, which is not expected

If the OFT were to win the case, it is claimed that up to £35 million will be lost to

grass-roots football. The Premier League yesterday agreed that 5 per cent of any future television deal will be diverted from the professional game into schools and public playing fields.
This announcement was

made at Wormwood Scrubs, in West London. David Mellor, the chairman of the task force, said that the increasing commercialisation of the national game may have brought benefits but the "sheer speed of this development has created unease about the way

the game is heading. There is also much talk of the game being awash with money at the highest level while facilities in schools and at the grass roots are in a poor state of repair and clubs in lower divisions

struggle to survive." The task force, which is backed by the Government, wants more professional footballers to become involved in local community work, with the report stating that players from all divisions made a total of only 4,000 recorded community appearances in 1996. It

adds: "Overall, activity by players in the top division would seem to be decreasing." The statement has been criti-cised by Gordon Taylor, the

chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA), who has pointed out that it was the PFA that originally set up the community programme and its members have worked hard to make it

Taylor claims that he was not invited to the launch yesterday and has resigned from the

Wycombe Yeovil in sight of to line up record Bassett Cup run

By Russell Kempson AND RICHARD HOBSON

THINK of a giant-killing act in the FA Cup and Yeovil Town spring to mind. At Huish Park tonight, the Somerset club will attempt to claim their nineteenth victory against Football League oppoation when they face Cardiff City in a third-round replay. Yeavil from the Football

Conference, almost extended their scalping record at the first attempt when they were denied only by a late equaliser in the I-I draw at Ninian Park ten days ago. Cardiff, the Nationwide League third division leaders, won 4-1 at home to Hartlepool United on

Fifty years ago. Year's reached the fourth round of the Cup for the only time in their history after wins against Romford. Weymouth and Bury. Their 2-1 win against Sunderland, then of the first division, still ranks as one of the competition's greatest upsets, even though they were subsequently humbled 8-0 by Manchester United at Old Trafford in the fifth

Yeovil or Cardiff will play the winners of tonight's replay between Sheffield United and Notts County at Meadow Lane Steve Bruce, in his first season as United's player manager, is prepared to select himself after criticising his team for a lack of passion and spirit during the 1-1 draw at

Bramall Lane ten days ago. His comments irked Notts County, who felt that they deserved more credit for holding United to a draw. Fifth from bottom of the second division. County have suffered eight defeats at home this season and Sam Allardyce, the manager, admits be needs to strengthen the team.

The victors of the replay be tween Barnsley and Swindon Town at Oakwell tonight will take on Bournemouth at home in the next round. Barnsley and Swindon drew 00 in their first game at the County Ground

may try

By RUSSELL KEMPSON AND STEPHEN WOOD.

VEIL SMILLIE, the manager of Wycombe Wanderers, was dismissed yesterday after only 11 months in charge. The Nationwide League club, 22nd in the second division, could now offer Dave Bassett, the former Nottingham Forest manager, a swift return after his departure from the City Ground last week.

Smillie succeeded Gregory at Adams Park in Rebruary and was given the job permanently on the final day only one of their first 16 games this season and despite a modicum of improvement towards the end of the year, they have lost their past three matches. Bayern Munich are consid-

ering making an offer for David Beckham, the England and Manchester United midfield player, as they look to strengthen their squad for the expanded European Cup Champions' League next sea son. "We are in the market for players like Beckham," Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, the Bayem vice-president, said yester day. "We are in the hunt for a superstar of his calibre."

Teddy Sheringham has ex-Trafford. With Andy Cole, Dwight Yorke and Ole Gunnar Solskjaer ahead of him in the pecking order, Shering ham has started only six senior matches this season. The manager has four strikers to choose from which makes things difficult for me." Sher-ingham said. "I'm not coping very well with not playing regularly in the first team. Bolton Wanderers are hoping to add to their Scandinavian contingent. They have offered Brondby El million for the services of Bo Hansen, a

Denmark-born striker. Marcel Desailly and Frank Leboeut, of Chelsea, and Emmanuel Petit, Patrick Vieira and Nicolas Anelka, of Arsenal, are in a France squad of 18 for the match against

SAILING

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CRICKET: TEST-PLAYING NATIONS AGREE TO SURRENDER CONTROL OVER PLAYER DISCIPLINE

before July.

ICC given power to act over match-fixing

THE International Cricket Council (ICC) has been granted new powers to impose authority on the issue of match-fixing, which is threatening to undermine the sport after the accusations made against Salim Malik, of Pakistan, and more recently, allegations of the involvement of players with South Asian bookmakers. Where individual countries were previously allowed to determine their rules on player discipline, they will now be bound by the ICC's own uniform penalties.

A landmark decision to relinquish an element of sovereignty was agreed unanimously by the nine Test-playing countries at a two-day executive meet ing in Christchurch, New Zealand, which David Richards, the ICC chief executive, described as "historic". A

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NFL); Play-of-

BASKETBALL

BUTTY EISER LEAGUE STORY EOO

BOWLS

By Richard Hobson

three-man commission, independent of any cricket board, will be convened before the end of February to oversee investigations into allegations of bribery and recommend punishments.

It will have authority to order any of the ICC's member nations to carry out an independent inquiry into match-fixing, and then to conduct its own review if the results are deemed to be unsatisfactory. Each country will be required to set up its own judicial process for handling cases. There is also provision to punish a country failing to comply with procedures.

After the introduction of match referees and a code of conduct in 1991. the ICC can now govern in the true sense of the word. Richards, his

hands tied in the past, said: "This meeting has given the ICC teeth. We can take cricket into the next century with restored dignity and harmony. The image of cricket was tarnished

when Shane Warne, Mark Waugh and Tim May, of Australia, first made accusations against Salim in 1994. More allegations over the connection of Warne and Waugh with bookmakers forced the ICC to act to restore credibility. "We have a serious problem, but the view of the board is that this is not rampant through the game," Richards said.

Delegates will reassemble at Lord's in June, when plans for a world cham-pionship of Test matches are also on the agenda. There is still indecision

FOR THE RECORD

over whether to formulate a show-. piece event similar to the World Cur or to adopt a rolling programme over four or five years - although Richards has guaranteed the future of the

traditional five-Test Ashes series. Darrell Hair, the Australian umpire, has been charged with bringing the game into disrepute for comments in his autobiography about the bowling action of Murtiah Muralitharan. Hair could face a fine and suspension after describing the Sri Lanka spin bowler's action as "diabolical".

The ICC will recommend that an eight-man version of the game features at the Commonwealth Games in Manchester in 2002. The under-19 World Cup, hosted by Sri Lanka next year, is to become a biennial event with a likely field of 16 countries.



SPORT IN BRIEF Smith seeks hearing

over failed drug test **SWIMMING:** Michelle Smith, the triple Olympic champion

manipulating a urine sample provided to drug testers a year ago last Simday, is seeking a preliminary hearing at the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) on the grounds that she and her solicitor. Peter Lennon, had not been given access to all the relevant documents in the case (Craig Lord writes).

The CAS said yesterday that Smith was likely to know her fate in March; a hearing date is to be amounted before the

who was suspended for four years last summer for

end of this month. A provisional date of February 5 depends on whether the arbitration panel of three lawyers is available.

Arsenal feel at home

III FOOTBALL: Arsenal, the holders, have been given a home tie in the fifth round of the AXA FA Women's Cup. They will face either Everton or Wembley Mill Hill. Croydon will play either Aston Villa or Millwall Lionesses if they bear Blyth Spartans Kestrels. Doncaster Belles will meet either Wolverhampton Wanderers or Bradford City.

Duval eases to success

■ GOLF: David Duval coasted to a nine-stroke victory in the Mercedes Championship, the opening event of the PGA Tour, in Hawaii. Duval completed the tournament with a score of 266, 26 under par. Mark O'Meara and Billy Mayfair tied for second on 275. Duval's victory margin was the largest on the Tour since Tiger Woods won the 1997 Masters by 12 strokes.

No change for Henman

TENNES: Tim Henman, the British No L remains seventh in the world rankings despite his defeat by Rainer Schutfler, the German qualifier, in the final of the Qatar Open in Doha. Greg Rusedski, who lost in the first round to Bernd Karbacher, also of Germany, stays at No 9.

Johnson wins final spot

SMOOKER: Joe Johnson and Dennis Taylor had mixed fortunes in the final qualifying round, in Blackpool, for the Regal Scottish Open. Johnson beat Craig MacGillivray 5-2 to book his place, but Taylor, 49, who will retire from competition at the end of the season, lost 5-3 to Dave Finbow.

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ake Louise	107 125	Good	Open	Vaned	Cloud	0	11/1
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wonaz	70 90	Powder	Good	Powder	Snow	-5	11/1
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a Tania	61 104	Good	Coen	Powder	Snow	-3	11/1
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IOPTON-ON-SEA, loor singles: First r	SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Fourth day of four; Adminide: South Australia 284-9 dec (8 A Johnson 122, G R Parkor 62) and 229 (G R				A		
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Accor							

bt J Baker (fre) 7-6 7-6 7-0. D Holt (Eng) bt A Allcock (Eng) 3-7, 5-7, 7-5, 7-2, 7-3	Parker 117); Western Australia 330 (M Dighton 95, S M Katich 60; G Chillingworth 5-96) and 184-4 (M Hussey 97) Western Australia		
CRESTA RUN	won by six wickets		
HEATON GOLD CUP: 1. Lord Wrottesley	CYCLING		
(GB) 252 33:sec. 2. Court I. Marrerzi (US) 253 61, 3. G. Pitsch (Switz) 255 44 LIGHTRIMIG CUP: 1, B. Steger (Switz) 136 87, 2, M. Mottler (Switz) 136 95, 3. P. Di- ethelm (Switz) 137 28	SUTTON PARK, Birmlogham: British CCA National championships: Senior (22mm, 1, S Noght (Paugest 406' Michalh) Ihr Omn 5 Isec 2, N Crag (Damond Back) at 14sec. 3, B Clarke (Team Palegh) at		
CRICKET	106 Under-23 (18 5km) 1, D Bowater (Black Country Wheelers) 51 32 2 P Old- ham (Hope Technology) at 30sec. 3, G		
SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Fourth day of four; Adebaide: South Australia 284-9 foc (8 A Johnson 122, G R Parker 62) and 229 (G R	Hordwicke (Beauwate CC) at 1.23 Jamilors (13 Siam) 1.5 Shodden (Ace RT) 39:11: 2. B Saumders (Harpwase Cycles) at 56sec; 3, P Lally (KHS-AXO) at 1.56		
	DARTS		
EPORTS	LAKESIDE COUNTRY CLUB, Frimley Green: Embassy world championship: Final: R Barneveld (Holl) bt R Bacter (Eng)		

6-5	
	FOOTBALL
ed or Woo Bedford T v Lymingto Bedfingtor V/anderen v Wick or Northwoo	: Fith-round draw: Bowers Unit- abnobe Town v Cambariev Town- own v Teverton Town: Durston FB on and New Micon. Ford United v n Temers: Workmoton v Suchum s or Garloch Town. Them United v Vaughall GM, Tauriton Town v d. Cütheroe or St Heiens Town v Health Harlegums
	be played Saturday January 30
Three Bric pool Lade Hove Albic ston or Sh	IEN'S CUP: Rith-round draw; Igns v Trannere Rovers or Lvo- se. Reading Royals v Brighton and on, Langford or Amold Town v Be- effield Wednesday, Waldord v Ben- r Gerfford Relies Winkerterration.

cor City or Bedford Belles Wolverhampton Wanderers or Bradford City v Donasster Belles, Berkhemsted Town v Southampton Sants, Arsonal v Everton or Warmbley Mill. Buth Spontans Kestells or Croydon v Ag-ton Villa Ladies or Millwoll Limesses ☐ Tres to be played Sunday February 7

KAPALUA, Hameli: Mercedes champlon-ship: Final secrets (US unless stated), 286t D Durat 67, 63, 68, 68, 2775; M O'Meara 70, 68, 69, 68, W Moytar 65, 69, 69, 71, 276; V Sangh (Fig) 70, 65, 70, 71 277; J Leonard 69, 72, 69, 69, 74, 273; D Luve 59, 68, 71, 70, 286; J Furyk 68, 69, 68, 75, 281; F Couples 59, 69, 73, 71, 282; D Accident 67, 70, 72, 71, 285; J Playes 70,

ICE HOCKEY NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): NY Rangers 5 Tampo Bay 2 Ottawo 4 Datro: 1 Calgary 1 Florida 2 Anahem 6 Edmonton 4 Chica-go 2 Colorado 3 (OT) Vancouver 2 Dašas 0

RUGBY FIVES MANCHESTER: National under-25 championships: Singles: Quarter-finals; I Purss fit P Campball 15-5, 15-2 B Lower 15 IN Miches 5-15, 15-9, 15-3. D Babby It S Faser 5-15, 15-9, 15-2 A Dean It C Jones 15-9, 15-5 Send-Braist Purvo bi Lovet 15-5, 15-9 Babby It Dean 15-9, 15-13 Finals Purvo bi Babby 15-9, 15-10 **RUGBY UNION**

WELSH CHALLENGE TROPHY: Pool A: Postponed: Nech V Natal Wildeberg (dayn) today, 7 15. AB LEACHE: Second division: Post-poned: Ballynahnd: v Malone SAILING

Kick-off 7 30 unless stated

Barnsley v Swingen (7 45) Notes County v Shaffield Utd (7.45) Yegwil v Cardiff (7 45)

Hastepool v Preson Definition v Chesterfield (at Chesterfield FC, 7 45) Wigan v Scarborough (7 45) Rochtale v Stoke (7 45) Sounthorpe v Carlide

Hamilton v Cholebeak (7 45)

First die

Fortar v Cycle .

Uningsion v East File Third division

Bower v Ross County ... Cowdentscath v Brechin. Queen's Park v Sterhouse

Queen's Park v Sterhousenum.

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Midland division: Bedwarth v Salemai Langue Que Second-round replay: Rotherd v Gardsan: Werey v Bath UNRECHIO LEAGUE President Drotsden: Trafford President's Cup: Second round: Abricham v Leich RAI STHAMAN LEAGUE CUP: Third round: Batton Round: Storgh RYMAN LEAGUE President Walton and Hersham v Besingshoe (7 45).

ton and Hersham v Basingsbile (745) Purma Cup: Second round: Hendon v Hey-landge Swifts: Wordeng v Aldershot Town Third round: Eried v Purfee: First divi-

(Br) 16: 3. M Blackham (Mest) 18. Other life. Inth placings: 6, A Simpson 37: 24, E Yinght Bi: 31, M Barron 113: 40, M Littleychn 1:00ts 49er (after 5 races), 1, C Nacholson and E Simyth (Aust) 5: 2. E Lazach and B Racine (Aust) 5: 3. J and G Boyle (Aust) 8 British placings: 7, A end I Budgen 8, 12, 1 Robrison and I Walter 17; 14, P Brotherton and N McDonald 18: 24, A Bchredton and P Greenhaldh 26, Pierr Gold Cup; (after 4 races) 1, M Kuzzierwicz (Pol. 30, 2, 1 Percy (GB) 35: 3, F Loof (Swe) 37, Other British placings: 14, D Mollor 75, 6, R Seninouse 122, 28, C Crumbley 124, 36, J Lea 140; 60, R West 218, E Brasilvets: and 1 Mahvenlay (Jer) 9: 2, A Kosmatopoulos and K Trigonis (Gr) 25; 3, A Procentation Pederson and B Johnson (Den) 28, British placings: 10, N Rogers and J Glanfeld 50 Group 8: 1, G Phappe and T Carlou (Fr) 12: 2, J Conto and J Data Fuente (Arg) 20; 3, M Resser and K Rumfurm (US) 22 British placings: 21, M Fernick and S Hughes 91: 24, D Jones and M Hogan 101 Group C: 1, S Coole and P Nicholas (NZ) 18, 2, N Wimot and D Smith (Aus) 22: 3, H Rocha and N Bar-

TODAY'S FIXTURES

sion: Berkharusted v Hichwi Second division: Barling v Hemel Hempstead; Witham v Met Police Thand division: Ford Littly V East Thursock Vandassel Trophy; Second round; Bedlord Town v Egitam. Taker round; Bedlord Town v Egitam. Taker Times FA YOUTH CAP. Third-round registy: Wassal v Tottecham, Foorth-round; Crowe v Queens Park Ranges. THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLIANCE; North East Conference: Grinsby v Rotherham (12.0)

THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLIANCE: North East Confarence: Grinsby
V Rotherham (12.0)
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION:
First division: Mithael v Crystal Palace
(2.0); Queers Park Rangers v Bournemouth
(2.0) Cambridge v West Hom (7)
FA PREMIER ACADEANY LEAGUE:
Under-17: Barnsley v Sheffold Wed (11.0)
Under-18: Barnsley v Sheffold Wed (11.0)
ARMOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUE:
First division: Dunston Federation v New.
caste Blue Star Easington v Morpeth Town
SCHEMPTIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premise
division: Bishop Sunon v Inventon.
MEMERYA SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premise division
V Hillington Bostough; Now Brackett St Poter v Beaconsteld Sycots. Somessett Ambury v Rustisp Memor, Wathern Abbey v
Brinsdown Premise division: Capt Third
round: Barlongside v St Megnesshory;
Aviston v Brook House Challenge Troging: Sectind remed: Confdosters v Holme
Green: Sectind-round replay: Ariosoly
Town v Harnlys.
NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE;
First division: Atheron LR v Remspospor;
North Western Trains League;
First division: Atheron LR v Remspospor;
North Western Trains League;
First division: Atheron LR v Remspospor;
North Western Trains League;
First division: Atheron LR v Remspospor;
North Western Trains League;
First division: Atheron LR v Remspospor;
North Western Trains League;
First division: Atheron LR v Remspospor;
North Western Trains League;

AUGBY UNION SWALEC CUP: Foorth round: Group B: Cross Keys v Durwent (7:30) Group L; Llandovery v Cardiff (7:30) reto (Por) 28 British plackage: 15, D Edwards and A May 85, 18, C Draper and D Mewman 83, Women: Group A father 6 races? 1, N British and W Buelle (Garl 12, 2 F Saha and E Soss (I) 22, 3, R Taran and E Patriotichii, (July 24, British plackage: 14, K Nuston and B Wasson 56 Groop 8t: 1, S Becatorou and E Tootifa (Ga) 16; 2, V Krachun and N Gegonovich (Fuss) 22, 3, S and M Ward (Den) 22, British plackage: 10, L Walker and S Parlen 39, 13, B Reggent and S Webb 57; 20, S Rees Jones and I Least-82 Soling (after 3 races); 1, S Westergaard and J Bolsen Molfer and B Westergaard and J Bolsen Molfer and B Westergaard (Den) 8; 2, J Schuemann and G Betre and 1 Bortowski (Gar) 12, 3, J Madiqual and C Hesty and E Stolkesland (US) 19, British plackage: 13, L Smith and O Stewent and R Chuckstonin 44; 16, A Beadeworth and R Sydenham and B Perion 50, Burope (after 2 races); 1, S Robertson (GB) 2; 2, S Mutala (Fin) 3, 3, M Ocalle (Bay 4 Other British plackage: 35, J Singleton 24, 43, N Muller 30, 46, O Winstanley 3.
CLEPPER ROUND-THE-WORLD RACE: Leg 2d (Gelepagos to Hause: with miles to Innsh); 1, And (A Thomson); 1,70; 2, Santa (R Deam) 1,742; 3, Chrysotite (T Hedger) 1,765, 4, Memmuns (B Solan) 1,745, 5, Teaping (N Firming) 1,529 SNOOKER BILACKPOOL: Scottish Open: Final qualitying round (England unless stated): J Brich bt J Weston 5-2 S James bt S Bedford 5-2; D Roe bt K Burrows 5-0, O Harm (Aus) bt M Doewnstoweld (Scot) 5-3, J Mchao bt J Prince (N ks) 5-4; D Finbow bt D Taylor (N kn) 5-3; L Fernandez bt B Jones 5-2; P Lines bt M Fu (HK) 5-1; J Johnson bt P Wiess 5-2; M Wilson bt S-2; S Massons bt P Wiess 5-2; M Wilson bt S-2; K Paid) 5-2; A Burden bt M Proe 5-3; J Swall (N kn) bt R Hull (Fin) 5-1; J Lenthor (Scot) bt T Jones 5-4, M Campbell (Scot) bt D O'Kere (NZ) 5-4, K Broughton bt P Phonbun (That) 5-3.

AUCKLAND: Auckland Open: First round: 8 Steven (NZ) bt W Ferreira (SA) 6-1 6-4. S Schaler (Holl) bt V Spacker (US) 7-6. 6-4. M Safer (Hoss) bt G Pozzi (Ø 6-3, 6-2 JA Marin (C Rical bt C Costa (Sp) 6-3, 6-4 JA Merin (C Fica) tx C Costs (Sp) 6-3, 6-4 WHITE CITY, Sydney Sydney Interna-tional: First round: More M Rosset Statz; tx B Uthrach (Cz) 6-4, 6-0; A Cornetta Sp) bt H Drestmann (Sen) 4-8, 6-3, 6-3, JM Gen-bil (US) bt S State (Aust 7-6 (9-7), 2-6, 6-1 Women: M J Fernandez (US) bt M Sema (Sp) 6-7, 6-2; 6-1; B Schett (Austria) bt A Maurestro (Fr) 6-1, 7-6 (7-1), K Habeucton, (Sovidie) bt E Lichostates (Fixe) 7-5, 6-7-P Schryder (Switz) bt S Tastud (Fr) 6-3, 3-6, 6-2

HOBART: Taxmanian International: First round: J Halard-Occupi (%) 15 E Wagner (Ger) 6-0, 6-3. E Taxarioux (Livrb E Ceiters, (Pet) 6-4, 7-6. C Black (Zen) bit K Brand (Lis) 6-2, 1-0 ret. S Pelcowdo (Fr) ta Nilwotof (Japan) 6-4, 6-4; S Pelcowdo (US) by A Decharane-Ballerst (Fr) 6-4, 7-5, M Drate (Can) bit A Elwood (Aus) 7-4, 6-1, N Pratifule) for Moreno (US) 5-2 ret 'u Fang (China) bit C Crestes (Floro) 6-2, 6-3

16 Port Veie v Swindon X
17 Podsmouth v Hudd IId1
18 Shelf Uld v Bolton 2
19 Widese v Wattond 1
SECOND DIVISION
2 Baunthrith v Notis Co 7
2 Machine John V Stoke X
24 Man City v Futhern 1
25 Notification v Watsaft 2
26 Oktharn v Blackgood 1
27 Preston v Liston 1
28 Bassfron v Stated 1 20 Johann V. Jacobool 27 Preston v Laton 26 Reading v Binstel R 29 Wigen v Lancoln 30-Wycombe v Metwell THIRD DIVISION THIRD DIVISION THIRD DIVISION 37 Chaste v Brighton 34 Derington v Helf

POOLS FORECAST 35 Hartlepool v Barnet 1
36 Peterborn v Cardill X
37 Pyrmouth v Mansfield 2
38 Rotherthm v Layden 2
39 Scarborn v Eyelar 2
SCOTTISH LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION FRIST DIVISION
40 Ayr v Arche
41 Cydebark v St-Mirrer 2
42 Faskirk v G Morton 1
43 Hibertian v Hamilton 1
43 Hibertian v Hamilton 1
44 Stratter v Rath 2
5ECOND DIVISION 4
5 After v Livingston 1
45 After v Staffing 2
46 Partick v Arbroad 1
THIRD DIVISION
48 Betwick v Stentimus X TREBLE CHANCE Brome bearral: Leeds, Totannam. Berseley, Bury, Port Vota, Maccistient. Beenford. Carthie, Peter-borugh, Rotterham, Ayr. Berneck, Best Oranwis. Berneck, Best Oranwisch, Bury, Port Vote, Maccistient Backburn, West Bromwich; Stolton, Milwell, Cadam.

Lindsay insists that the decision to stand down from Super League was his alone

ويحذر من رائيسل

Spin-doctor departs with final twist in tale

that he would be step ping down as marrag-ing director of Super League Europe (SLE), it was with the archetypal soundbite on which he has based a reputation. "I've watched a lot of administrators in sport go on to the walking stick stage and I was never going to do that," he said.

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Twenty years ago, Lindsay learned the value of a good quote when as a new director at Wigan, who he had watched since boyhood, he made it his mission to ensure that the rugby league club, and not Wigan Athletic Football Club, led the back page of the local evening newspaper. No rugby league figure in the past two decades has gone on to hog the limelight like Maurice Patrick

Certainly, few sports administrators have made themselves as accessible or mastered the art of spin. His tongue has occasionally tied him in knots, but Houdini could not have extricated himself from such tight spots. When the media gathered yesterday at Headingley amid rumblings that he might be pushed, Lindsay con-firmed the unanimous support of the 14 Super League clubs and that he had approached them for a retirement date. "It's very much my decision," he announced,

Even on his way out, his reputasomehow unmoved. He intends to depart when his present contract expires at the end of the forthcoming season in October, although sooner remains a possibility. He spent more than £200,000 last month on betting pitches at Cheltenham, York, Doncaster and Haydock Park racecourses. During his 20 years in rugby league, he has kept his interest as an on-rails bookmaker, which hardly endeared him to enemies who referred to him simply as 'The

If a smooth handover can be completed quickly, Chris Caisley, the SLE chairman, confirmed that Lindsay may leave early. Even then, he will continue as an unpaid non-executive director responsible for television negotiations and new franchises. For all the supposed young Turks about, there is still no more conning wheeler-dealer -



World at his feet: Lindsay, right, was instrumental in the formation of the Super League in 1995, which transformed the financial fortunes of rugby league

some would argue manipulative and ruthless — than Lindsay, who was anxious not to sever his links

Not for the first time, Lindsay referred to rugby league "punching above its weight" —a phrase often used to describe him. At 58, the boyenthusiasm still shines through. As his other profession implies, his is a gambler's instinct.

(RFU) are considering a restric-

tion on the number of foreign

and non-England qualified

players in the game. The move

would benefit both sides by

reducing unsustainable wage

bills as well as assisting the development of a greater

number of English players

Brian Baister, the RFU

chairman, said: "It would be a

win-win situation." The only

The move comes as the

number of non-England quali-fied players in the Allied Dun-

bar Premiership rises to 160-

the equivalent of more than

ten first teams — a situation

that Clive Woodward, the Eng-

land coach, has described as

"alarming". There is an accept-

ance that action needs to be

taken if the influx is to be

stemmed and England are to

list with 21 non-English play-

ers registered, followed by

for "No English Chaps". Lon-

don Irish, with 16, come next.

Leicester and Richmond each

have 14 on their books while

London Scottish head the

There were times during the club mergers furore in 1995 when he seemed to stake the game itself on getting the right price for the new Super League. At £87 million, Lindsay won but at a personal cost.

His most vivid memory of that time was being accosted outside Wembley after the Wigan team, whose rise he had orchestrated, had won their eighth successive

-Challenge Cup final. "A man with his wife and son stopped the car on a zebra crossing," he said. "Why are you ruining this kid's future? he kept shouling. What people wouldn't admit at the time was that rugby league was on its way out without the News Corporation deal. We went from the begging bowl to the rich man's table."

director, Lindsay was ordered to make the tea. A great club had reached its nadir of the second division and with three fellow directors - Jack Hilton, Tom Rathbone and Jack Robinson — a boardroom coup cleared the deadwood and set the stage for a domination unseen in English sport. When Wigan beat Hull in the classic 1985 Challenge Cup final, Lindsay's

was Lindsay who brought John Ferguson and Brett Kenny, two fine Australian talents, to Central Park; he was responsible for such signings as Ellery Hanley, Andy Gregory and Martin Offiah and others to make pulses race; and he appointed two overseas coaches. firstly Graham Lowe and then

anomaly, UK passport-hold-

ers are not automatically enti-

tled to such rights. As part of

the negotiations with the RFU

to find an acceptable structure,

Tom Walkinshaw, the owner

of Gloucester and chairman of English First Division Rugby.

is proposing that "foreign" should be redefined to pre-

clude anyone not born in the

EU: Australians with a British

the RFU operations director,

pointed out, that could create a

problem as it would mean that

Mike Catt and Tony Under-

However, as Terry Burwell,

grandparent, for example.

'It will seem strange without him, and not nearly so colourful'

John Monie, who transformed Wigan on the field while Lindsay,

His appointment in 1992 as Rug-by Football League (RFL) chief executive was no surprise, but after the laid-back regime of the urbane David Oxley, the self-made, ambitious Lindsay came as a rude awakening at the old Chapeltown Road headquarters. Delegation was never a strong point, fools were not suffered and his personal mission to take the game to the promised land - anywhere outside the North, it seemed - brought casualties and enemies in abundance.

A workaholic and ruthless perfectionist, perhaps there was noone better qualified than Lindsay when the Super League came knocking in 1995. The windfall saw the game on the verge of being torn apart over mergers, franchises and the switch to summer rugby, during which the knives were unsheathed for the demonised Lindsay, but it is a fact that rugby league is better placed now than it has ever been.

leaving behind the "drivel and dross" after six years at the RFL. Lindsay's farnous tact did not make his jumping ship to SLE last year any smoother. His new relationship with Caisley, one of Lindsay's fiercest critics while at the RFL, was a mystery, but within weeks, Lindsay had delivered his parting gifts — a two-year sponsor-ship of the Super League by JJB Sports and a renegotiated £45 million television deal up to 2003.

"Since 1979, I've seen every year bring an advancement," Lindsay said. "1999 will be the best yet." It will be strange without him, less controversial perhaps, but undoubtedly not nearly so colourful.

Ainslie closes in on first Laser title

with seeks her

er fusied drug

BY EDWARD GORMAN. SAILING CORRESPONDENT

BEN AINSLIE is continuing to set a blistering pace at the Laser class world championships in Melbourne where he leads his old rival, Robert Scheidt of Brazil, by five points

with two days of racing left. The young Briton is bidding for his first world title in Lasers and is determined to stop Scheidt adding a third to his existing two, hardly putting a tack out of place

over the past three days.

Apart from the first race when he finished ninth to Scheidt's seventh, the Olympic silver medal-winner, recently voted BT/YJA Inshore Rac ing Yachtsman of the Year, has never been out of the top three. Yesterday he was third in the first race and won the second, his fifth win so far.

Shirley Robertson began her bid for a world title in the Europe single-handed dinghy with two wins yesterday. In the Finn class, lain Percy is second after four races, five points behind Mateusz Kusnierwicz, the Polish Olympic

gold medal-winner.
In the body contested 49er fleet, Chris Nicholson, the world champion from Australia, leads after five races. Andy and Ian Budgen, of Britain, are seventh overall, three points behind the leaders, while Tim Robinson and Ian Walker are twelfth. In the Solings, Andy

Beadsworth has returned to the sort of erratic form that. plagued him last year and that could allow Lawrie Smith to finish ahead of him at the British Olympic trials next year. Beadsworth was sixteenth after three races with Smith three places better off.
In Auckland, meanwhile, Mike Golding announced his withdrawal from the Around

Alone Race because the damage suffered by Team Group 4 after the grounding off Cape Rienga cannot be rectified in time for the start of the third leg on February 6.
"I am absolutely devastated

at having to withdraw, but I believe it would be irresponsible for me to continue with the existing keel," Golding said.

RUGBY UNION: BAISTER SEEKS TO ASSIST BOTH CLUBS AND COUNTRY WITH PROPOSED CONTROLS

KFU considers move to reduce number of overseas players

BY MARK SOUSTER

Saracens II. At the bottom are Wasps with six and Gloucester with four, both of whose respective directors of rugby, Nigel Melville and Richard Hill, are keen to promote English talent.

losers might be a host of southern-hemisphere players-looking to join a "gold rush" to England after the World Cirp

but having taken legal advice, Twickenham is of the opinion that controls could be introduced. We believe we could put something in place which, although not strictly legal, is

He added: "There will always be a dub-country dilemma. The clubs are businesses and the RFU is trying to look after the interests of the international game. We have to find a middle ground." It

agree to a new code. Another idea being floated is that international march fees of about £5,000 could go to the clubs rather than individuals. At present only two foreign players, who by definition do

not enjoy European Union

wood, for example, would be classified as foreign players. But nobody, he said, argued with Walkinshaw's rationale. "What we have to do is come up with a formula that does not contradict existing con-By the time Henley come visiting over the weekend of January 30-31, Gloucester tracts, but brings in some form of voluntary control."

Ironically, the possible formation of an Anglo-Welsh league could make controls easier to introduce. The Welsh Rugby Union already insists that 16 out of 22 players in any match squad must be qualified to play for Wales.

"But if we do see an Anglo-Welsh league, then a variation on that principle could be made to work," Burwell said, adding that policies adopted by other nations were also being studied.

British

SKIING

champion out on his own

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN TIGNES, FRANCE

ANDREW FRESHWATER the defending champion, confirmed his ranking as favourite for the opening event of the British Land national championships, the men's downhill, with his secand consecutive fastest training time here yesterday.

Freshwater, 25, made few errors despite the poor visibility, strong winds and driving snow to record 1min 21.44sec, which gave him a cushion of more than two seconds over Johnny Moulder-Brown, the British junior champion. "A lot can still happen but I'm pleased with the way I skied."

he said.

Freshwater has suffered from an acute lack of downhill races in Europe this season as he builds up to the Alpine world championships in the United States at the end of this month, but has demonstrated in training the gulf that exists between him and

the chasing pack of British downhill skiers.

No such gulf is apparent among the British women.

While Tessa Pirie led both training runs and looks favourite to win the women's downhill title today, all her compatriots attacked the course with aggression and enthusiasm.

This was underlined by the performance of Danielle Bosher, 15, who yesterday skied a much more confident attacking run in only her second downhill race, finishing third among the Britons. Pirie's younger sister Amanda, in second place, was just under a second down on her sibling. who will have no margin for

error today.

Alain Baxter and Emma Carrick-Anderson, the leading British slalom skiers. arrive later in the week to compete in the technical disciplines.

Baxter competes in both slalom and giant slalom. while Carrick-Anderson, who is fresh from winning an international race in Sweden, will be looking for a successful defence of her British women's sialom title.

Whether such proposals not illegal if everybody agrees would flout existing European to it." Baister said. "There is a has been suggested that the workers' rights, are allowed in Kingsholm date is reward for Henley

HENLEY'S giant-killing at Bedford on Sunday has earned them a plum tie away

to Gloucester in the fifth round of the Tetley's Bitter Cup (David Hands writes). The draw, made by Paul Wallace, the Saracens and Ireland prop. did not treat the lesser lights kindly — only Lydney will be af home, and that against Saracens, the holders - but Henley will have

few qualms about visiting Kingsholm. Harlequins with 19, with the suggestion that NEC, their sponsors, should really stand The Jewson National League first division club cheerfully acknowledge that they will not win the cup, but they will enjoy the prospect of playing at so famous a venue and they will do their best to cause Gloucester some discomfort on the way. They reckon they have already made

£20.000 from their cup run and if the Gloucester public give them the respect that they deserve, that sum will be even healthier. "We haven't had too many Henleyites in the Shed." John Fidler, the Gloucester team manager, said, "but if they can go to Bedford and win, fair play

to them. We will prepare properly."

CUP DRAW FTFTH ROUND: Northampton v London Irish, Waspa v Waterloo; London Scottish v Harlequins; Gloucester v Henley; West Harlfepool v Newcastie; Richmond v Exeter; Leicester v Leeds; Lydney v

Ties to be played January 30 and 31

clubs have settled on a transfer fee. If the move goes through, Beim will be available for their cup side. The tie of the round is that between Northampton and London Irish at Frank-

lin's Gardens. Northampton have been among the pacesetters for much of the season but were dramatically beaten at home by the Irish in the Allied Dunbar Premiership last Tuesday, being outscored five tries to one in a 32-8 defeat.

hope that Tom Beim will have rejoined

their stable. Personal terms with the Sale

wing, who was capped by England last

summer, have been agreed and both

Jets the toast of Broadway TWO years ago, the New York Jets were a laughing stock. They had an expensive on Sunday, Parcells took the quarterback who couldn't throw, a wide receiver who openly mocked the rest of his team-mates and a coach who seemed more concerned with petty discipline than the fact that his team could only win one of their lo regular season games. Things have changed Rich Kotite, a coach who only the second time.

once interrupted a training session to tell me to stand up on the sidelines, is long gone. His place has been taken by Bill Parcells, the man who guided the New York Giants and the New England Patriots to the Super Bowl and now, in his second season in charge. stands on the brink of setting a National Football League record by leading a third side into the showpiece event of the

It would have been hard to believe before he arrived, but

Jets to within one step of the Super Bowl in Miami on January 31 when he led his team to a nail-biting 34-24 victory over the Jacksonville Jaguars. It earned them a tie against the Denver Broncos next Sunday and the chance to claim the American Football Conference championship for

The Jets have been revitalised by Parcells. In particular, he has instilled a fighting spirit in the team epitomised by that once unhappy wide receiver, Keyshawn Johnson. In the bad old days of Kotite,

phy called Just Give Me The Damn Ball. The Jets obeyed that command on Sunday, Johnson scored two touchdowns and the Jets held on to secure their game againstJohn Elway and the Broncos. In the other game on Sun-

day, the Minnesota Vikings,

one of the surprise teams of LAST FOUR

Johnson wrote an autobiogra-

NATIONAL CONFERENCE (NFC) Meviesola Vikings v Altaria Braves

veteran quarterback, eased past the Cardinals 41-21 to the first time in 11 years.

the Cardinals coach, said. "If

this it's hard to come back. We

Cunningham, who completed 17 of his 27 passes for 236 yards and three touchdowns, has made the most dramatic comeback of the season. Written off, he was given his chance back in September when the Vikings' first choice, Brad Johnson, was injured. Now he has made the position

tried but we came up short.

They are a formidable team."

"My offensive line did an excellent job protecting me today," Cunningham said. 'it's been a wonderful season for me so far, so much better than I could have hoped for, but there are still two games to go before I can say it was

☐ Marty Schottenheimer resigned yesterday after ten years as coach of the Kansas City Chiefs. The team disappointed this season, missing



Cumningham, the veteran Minnesota Vikings quarterback, salutes the crowd after victory over the Arizona Cardinals

By Oliver Holt

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: PARCELLS' CONTENDERS ON THE BRINK OF SUPER BOWL

this season, achieved their expected victory over the Arizona Cardinals to clinch their own tie against the Atlanta Falcons for the National Football Conference title in Minneapolis next Sunday. The Vikings, led by Randall Cunningham, the

AMERICAN CONFERENCE (APC) Denver Broncos v New York Jets

claim their place among the last four post-season teams for

"Minnesota have got an excellent football team on both sides of the ball," Vince Tobin,

TELEVISION CHOICE

Killick bids to prove himself a step ahead

The growing trend in dance sport is to find a female Russian partner. Ruth Gledhill reports

ance sport judges will be closely marking moves of Paul Killick, of England, tomorrow as he takes to the floor with his new partner in the Star Ball at Grosvenor House in London. Killick is one of an increasing number of Britain's top male competitors opting to dance with partners from the former Soviet Union rather than England. Male dancers say they prefer the grit, determination and well-muscled stamina of partners from countries such as Russia and Ukraine.

Killick, 29, from Kent, is the most talented Latin dancer to emerge from England in several years and, having paired up with 21-year-old Karyna Kylko-

va, is bringing a renewed challenge to Bryan Watson ⁶ Russians and Karen Hardy. the British No l have an Latin couple. Watson, born in

enormous South Africa, and the home-grown desire Hardy, reigned supreme, to win? on British soil at least, for the past two years. Howev-

er, Killick and Kylkova, who teamed up six months ago and made a stunning debut at the US Open in Miami last September where they finished runners-up, are already challenging Watson and Hardy in the rumba and paso doble. The pair also hope to chal-

lenge Watson and Hardy in the cha-cha-cha, where Killick believes that Watson, the taller dancer, is vulnerable. "His girl is not of the same quality as mine," he said. "In the longterm, that is going to make the difference."

Also dimbing the world rankings with a Russian partner, and aiming to finish in the top six at the Star, will be Jonathan Wilkins, 28, of England. Competing under the American flag as that nation's ofessional standard champion, Wilkins, from Slough, teamed up three years ago with the statuesque blonde,

Yekaterina Demidova. Our goal is to make the final at the Star," Wilkins, who finished fifth with Demidova. 21, at the world finals in Miami, said. "Katusha [Demidova) has been dancing since she

was 5. She was also a top ice skater and was trained as a pianist as well. The Russian girls are just so beautiful and so dedicated. They have a special look that is very good on the floor, a certain competi-

tive edge."
The trend is not confined to the professional field. After a series of unsuccessful partner-ships with British girls, one of England's top amateur stand-ard dancers, Craig Draper, from Sheffield, has teamed up with Irina Chuprakova, 16, from Russia.

Training sessions at Dance Options, Cheam, in Surrey have been highly encourag-ing. Draper, 23, tipped as a future British No I, said: "Irina is probably the best ball-

room dancer in Russia. She has so much natural ability, nothing is false about her." Both Killick and

Kylkova, Wilkins and Chouprakova, will be going on to Bournedance against thousands of couples from around the world in the UK Open. In Russia alone, more than 100,000 couples are registered

as amateur dancers, compared to about 2,000 in Engand. Determination to escape lives of poverty and hardship in the former communist bloc means that Russian dance sport competitors have learnt to excel in the same way as Russian gymnasts and ballet dancers. But because dance sport has only recently become an Olympic sport, the wealth of Russian talent has not been apparent until now.

Under Olympic rules, none of these partnerships will be able to take part when dance sport makes it onto the Olympic programme, either in 2004 or 2008. Olympic participation demands that both couples should be of the same nationality to represent their country. But in dance sport world championships, as with most other events in the sport at present. the rules are more flexible and couples are able to dance for the country of either member of the partnership.

Italy is another country where British women, in

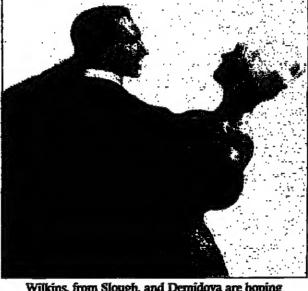


Killick and Kylkova have already made a great impact during their six months together

particular, are finding topclass male partners - and adds further proof that dancers are prepared to sacrifice a potential Olympic medal in order to find the right partner. John Leach, editor of Dance

News, which is promoting the UK championship next week. said: The Russians have shown through their achievements in other sports and arts such as ballet and gymnastics a natural ability to transfer music into movement. They are producing an enormous number of couples, and girls in particular, of a high standard. "People are attracted by the

Russian temperament, their enormous desire to win. And now that there are fewer visa restrictions, the Russians are being considered as partners by men from every nation in the world, not just England."



Wilkins, from Slough, and Demidova are hoping to finish in the top six at the Star Ball in London

Holt adds a fresh chapter to his story of success

DAVID HOLT defeated Tony Allcock 3-7, 5-7, 7-5, 7-2, 7-3 in the preliminary round of the world indoor singles champing at Potters Leisure Resort in Norfolk yesterday after taking a leaf out of the book of his

opponent_ Allcock, unseeded, and desperate to collect some ranking points, appeared to be on his way to an easy straight-sets victory when he led 5-3 in the third set, only for Holt to remember a useful piece of advice that he had read in a book written by Allcock.

Tony wrote that if what you normally do is not working for you, you should try something else," Holt said. "So, when been turned so decisively with

BY DAVID RHYS JONES

Tony put his first bowl next to the jack, I decided to do something unorthodox, and ditched the jack." A succession of bowls drawn delicately to the jack in

the ditch left Holt holding one shot, and Allcock in a useful second position, when Holt delivered what he later described as a "wonder bowl". "I thought I could ditch Tony's saving bowl for a count of three, but my own bowls somehow stayed on the green, and I scored a full house, which not only give me the set. but boosted my confidence." Rarely can a game have

公司 经工程 Answers from page 43 TZOLKIN

YUAN

made up of thirteen twenty-day units."

a single bowl as Holt suddenly began to play like a winner. Two ends later he collected another full house and, although Allcock put up spirited resist-ance in the deciding set, Holt proved to be the master.

Holt's first victory over Allcock was 12 years ago when he astonished spectators at Worthing by beating the then world indoor champion, 21-5, in the final of the English outdoor singles championship. No one in the flat green game had heard of the precocious crown green bowler who, at 20 years of age, had the temerity to win not only the singles, but the pairs as well.

Since then, he has gone on to play for England indoors and out, and has beaten most of the top players in leading events. For good measure he is also the manager of the Blackpool Borough indoor bowls club. David Corkill, who was a

successful and popular com-petitor in the Eighties, has kept a low profile for the past few years, as he has given pri-ority to his career as an administrator with the Northern Ireland Health Service.

Last November, however, he rolled back the years to win the UK singles title at Potters, and he continued in winning vein yesterday when he beat his fellow Ireland international. Jim Baker, who won the world title in 1984.

The first set took 68 minutes. the longest of the championships so far, and went to Corkill, 7-6. He took the second, which could have gone either way, by the same score and then mopped up the third, 7-0, in only four ends.



Professor David Southall in Someone to Watch Over Me (ITV, times vary)

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Republican side before being forced into exile in England, all six of his brothers fought for Franco. A vast family remion in Madrid suggests that wounds may have healed. Portillo starts his journey at the Albambra in Granada and ends it in Salomana unbara his father studied and towards. The material is familiar (difficult and angry passengers, harassed staff, delayed flights) but the aurime and the characters are new. Welcome to easyJet, a brash, no-frills operation which offers cheap seats, tickefless booking and no in-flight meals. For the next eight weeks easyJet will be in the eye of the camera, as will its 32-year-old owner. Stellos Hajii-loannou, a multi-millionaire who insists that his cabin staff wear uniforms in his favourite orange. He is setting off to Amsterdam in tunight's film, but has to endure the wrath of his own customers when the flight is held up. Meanwhile, Jane Boulton at the check-in desk is having to tell-passengers that easyJet does not accept live animals. This is bed news for 15-year-old David, who has come all the way from Canada with three lobsters as a present for friends. journey at the Albambra in Catalada and changhr Salamanca where his father studied and taughr As with many films in this series the rail travel is mostly incidental, though Portillo introduces us to Spain's oldest working locomotive and the magnifi-cent high speed train which glides between Seville and Madrid at up to 180 mph.

Someone to Watch over Me

Afternoon Play: Bawcock's Eve.

Radio 4, 2.15pm

IIV, 10:40pm A documentary calculated to disturb highlights a rare personality disorder which causes parents to injure, and sometimes kill, their children. Munch hausen Syndrome by Proxy was identified 20 years ago by the paediatrician. Sir Roy Meadow. The causes of the condition remain obscure, but the reason why parents abuse their children is to gain attention for themselves. Jane Harvey's report looks at cases in Britain and America and includes an interview with a woman serving ten wears in an interview with a woman serving ten years in prison for killing her daughter. The film also, shows doctors using hidden cameras in hospital wards to record abusers in the act. Video serveillance is controversial. Supporters say it is essential for obtaining proof. Critics retort that it is a form of entravarient. form of entrapment.

This is an absorbing dramatisation, based on a Cornish legend which I learnt about as a boy and have always reparded as having a Christian undertone, there being an implied link between Tom Bawcock (pronounced Bowcock) setting off tocatch a boat full of pilchards to save the village of

a boat full of pilenards to save me village of Mousehole from starvation and Christ's injunction to the fishermen in Galilee. Nick Darke's play brings a contemporary perspective to the tale, as we discover in the first minute ("She'll be back d'rectly — gone Spar"). The words are those of Gran (Barbara Jefford), who causes unexpected maybem when she takes in a pregnant stranger, who, like Bawcock, has been led to Mousehole by a vision.

BBC WORLD SERVICE

RADIO CHOICE

The New Recruit

Great Railway Journeys

BBC2_9.30pm

ITV, 8.30pm.

One of the best short programmes introduced in the Radio 4 revamp last year deservedly returns for another series. The idea is to bring together a newcomer and an old hand in a particular trade or calling each week. Today everyone who has ever moved house and warrhed anxiously while the removers navigated a flight of stairs carrying a Steinway grand or a Ming vase will nod knowingly as new recruit Julian McContnick compares notes with Howard Routledge, who began in the notes with Howard Routledge, who began in the removal business 50 years ago. One encouraging fact that emerges is that removal men now hump thousands of books from one home to another whereas in 1950 Routledge often carried them in a

Michael Portillo is this week's traveller, tracing his family roots, and particularly those of his father, in Spain. The Spanish Civil War hangs heavily over the film, not only for its effect on Spain in the wider sense but for splitting families. While Portillo's father, a poet and university teacher, supported the

him to die", he snaps at an underling in the operat-ing theatre, while out of his earshot comparisons are made with Attila the Hun. Meyer apart this is

standard hospital fare, but delivered less hectically than is usual with this genre.

RADIO 1 (BBC)

6.30are Zoe Ball 9.00 Simon Meyo 12.00pm Kévin Greening 2.00 Mark Radcliffe 4.00 Chris Moyles 6.09 Dave Pearce 8.00 Steve Lamacq: The Evening Session, Gene and Badly Drawn Boy In session 10.00 Digital Update 10.10 Joint Peel 12.00are The Breezeblock 2.00 Cive Warren 4.00 Scott Mills

RADIO 2 (BBC)

8.00mm Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogen 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00pm Jimmy Young 2.00 Ed Stewert 5.06 Johnnie Walker 7.00 Alan Freeman: Their Greetest Sits 8.00, Nigel Ogden 9.00 Vosburgh's Further Follies: An Insight Into the world of entertalminetic with Dick Vosburgh 10.00. Sussifit Jefreys Saye Make It a Double (2/6) 10.30 Richard Allinson 12.00am Katrina Leskenich 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC)

5.00cm Morning Reports 5.00 Breaklast 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00cm The Midday News with Annis Webster 1.00 Ruscoe and Co 4.00 Drive. Including the FA Cup-third-round replays 7.00 News Edge 7.30 The Tuesday Match. Russell Fuller introduces coverage of the night's tootball action, including the FA Cup third-round replays 10.00 Lete Night Live with Brian Hayes 1.00cms Up All Night.

6.30mm Chris Evane 9.30 Russ Williams 1.00mm Nick Abbot 4.00 Hamlet Scott 6.45 Mark Forrest 10.00 Richard Allen 1.00mm James Mentil 4.30 Jeremy Clark

TALK RADIO

6.00mm Big Boys Breaklast 9.00 Scott Chisholm 1.00pm Anna. Raebum 3.00 Peter Deeley's Drivetime 5.00 The Sports Zone 8.00 James Whale 1.00mm Ian Collins

5.00mm The World Today 7.00 World News 7.15 Dutlock 7.55 My Century 8.00 World News 8.05 Periormence 8.20 Off the Shelt Siles Marmer 8.35 Discovery 9.00 World News 9.05 Plays in Focus; Henry M Part one 9.20 Frank Mult Remelpared 9.50. Sports Round-Up 10.00 Newsdesk 17.00 The Mult Periodox 9.045 Short Story 11.00 Newsdesk 17.00 The Mult Periodox 9.00 News 2.05 Collock 12.45 Sports Round-Up 1.00 Newsdesk 17.00 Newsdesk 9.30 Every 2.00 Norld News 2.05 Sports Round-Up 3.15 Westway 2.30 Every 2.00 World News 2.05 Sports Round-Up 3.15 Westway 2.30 Every 2.00 World News 2.05 Discovery 7.30 Global Wildler 7.45 Off She Shelf: Siles Marmer 8.60 Newsthood 9.45 The Shelf: Siles Marmer 8.60 Newsthood 9.30 Metidea Uve 10.00 World News 10.15 Sports Round-Up 10.30 Mestgentx 11.00 World News 10.15 Sports Round-Up 10.30 Mestgentx 11.00 World News 11.05 Outlook 11.45 Insight 12.00am The World Today 1.20 On Screen 2.00 The World Today 3.20 Watershed 3.00 The World Today 3.20 Sports Round-Up 3.30 World Business Report 3.46 Insight 4.00 The World Today 3.30 World Business Report 3.46 Insight 4.00 The World Today

6.00em Nick Balley's Easier Breakfast, Soothing music and fromation: updates 8.00 Harry Kelly, Includes the Hall of Fame Hour and Record of the Week 12.00pm Lunchtime Requests, Jene Jones Introduces listeners' savourite pieces of classical music 2.00 Concerto. Tohalkovsky (Plano Concerto No. 1 hr B minor) 3.00 Jamie Crick Includes information updates and Continuous Classics and Alternoon Romance 8.30 Newenight. Sport, finance and news updates, with John Brunning 7.00 Smooth Classics at Saven. John Prunning introduces classical sounds 9.00 Evening Concert. Debussy (Pratude a L'apres-Midi d'une Faune); Ravel (Ma Mere L'oye); Bgar (Symphory No. 2 in E Rait; Anonymous (Bolero 1830) 11.00 Mann at Nigris. Music and conversation through the early hours with Alan Mann 2.00ems. Concerto. Tohalkovsky (Plano Concerto No. 1 in B minor (r) 3.00 Mark Griffiths. The Early Breakfast Show.

6.00em On Air with Petroc Trelawny, Beethoven (Cello Sonata in C, Op 102 No 1); Lalo (Scherzo)
9.00 Masterworks with Peter Hobday, Anon (Two Renalssance Dences); Vaughan Williams (The Lark Ascanding); Haydin (Piano Trio in Fisharp minor, HXY 26); Liszi (Les Preludes)
10.30 Artist of the Weelt: Emanuel Ax
11.00 Sound Stordes: Feuda Corner Peter Staffer's departs expount of the makey between Mozart

11.00 Sound Stodes: Feuds Corner Peter Shaffer's dramatic account of the rivalry between Mozart and Antonio Salieri
12.00pm Composer of the Week: Rimetry-Korselow
1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert Paul Welfdrs, cello, lan Brown, piano, Janacek (Pohodies); Poulenc (Cello Sonata); Martinu (Variations on a Slovak Theme) (f)
2.00 The BBC Orchestras BBC Philharmonic under Yan Pascal Tortelier, Shura Chericasky, piano, Chester Festival Chous. Rimsky-Korselow (Capriccio Espagnol); Shawinsky (Symptony of Paalms); Rubenstein (Piano Concerto No 4); Mussorgsky, orch Ravel (Pictures at an Exhibition)
4.00 Voices (f)

4.00 Volcas (r)

4.45 Music Machine Tommy Peanson talks to Teny
Pratchet, who has written the words to a national
anthem for his fictitious Discoworld city of
Ankit-Morpork

5.00 In Tune Sean Reflerty looks at the pros and coos of taking opera off the stage
7.30 Performance on 3: Poulenc Centenary Gala Penny Gora Introduces a celebration of Francis Poulenc's achievement, feeturing leading interpreters of his music
9.40 Poulscript. The Hed Flag and the Red Mask

9.40 Postscript: The Red Flag and the Red Mask with Paul Neuberg (2/5)
10.05 BBC Scottleh Symphony Orchestra under Martyn Brabbins. Andrew Toovey (Red Icon)
10.45 Migdit Waves Fischard Coles profiles the poet Geoffrey Hill
11.30 Jazz Notes Alyn Shipton presents the first of two programmes featuring Cleo Laine and the Alec and John Danieworth Generation Band in concert at the Stables, Wavendon
12.00 mm Composer of the West: Poulenc (r)
1.00 Through the Might with Donald Macleod Includes 1.00 Beroque music from across Europe performed by Trio Sonnerie 2.35 Haydn, art Salomon (Symphony No 96 in D) 3.00-6.00 Schools: Playtime 3.15 Time to Move 3.20 Let's Make a Story 3.50 Drama Workshop 4.10 in the News 4.30 Hop, Skip and Jump 5.00 Groneman (Fute Sonate in Emirror) 5.35 Saint-Saens (Mon Coeur S'ouvre)

5.30am World News 5.35 Stripping Forecast 5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day 5.47 Ferming Today Rural Issues with Anna Hill

5.40 Insthore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day
5.47 Ferming Today Rural Issues with Arra Hill.
6.00 Today Introduced by Winfired Robinson and
James Naughtie
8.35 (LW) Yesterday in Parliament Update on
political developments
9.00 No Triumph, No Tragedy The television
anchonvormen Bree Walker talks about the genetic
disability affecting her hands and feet (2/6)
8.30 The New Hacrust New series. See Choice (1/5)
9.45 (LW) Delity Service Director of music lan Tracey
9.45 (FM) Serial: The Doctor, the Destective and
Arthur Comm Doyle Michael Williams reads part
two of Martin Booth's biography.
10.00 Woman's Hour with Martina Keamey
11.00 Natures Insight Howard Stableford explores the
science behind deeth and ageing (f)
11.30 The Gation and Simpson Radio Playfocuse A
con-man's bluff is called. Kelth Barron and June
Whitfield star (3/4)
12.00pm (LW) News Headlines; Shipping Forecast
12.00 (FM) News 12.04 You and Yours Topical
consumer news and investigations
1.00 The World at One With Nick Claric
1.36 Pall Orchestra Leading orchestras compete in a
display of musical knowledge, presided over by
Tormny Pearson
2.00 The Archers (r)
2.15 Attenson Play: Elemental Tales — Berecock's
Every Nick Oraria. Winter in Mousehole sees
Gran taking in a mysterious lodger. With Barbera.
Jefford, Diana Berman and Cassandra Holiday.
See Choice
3.00 The Eschanger 0670-010 0444 Edde Mair

See Choice
3.00 The Exchange: 0870-010 0444 Edde Mar
assesses Interiers' opinions of a topical leave
3.30 Tales from the Village Joel Khazo attends a
tractitional Kenyan funeral (2/5) (f)

3.45 This Sceptred late Anna Massey nametes the Battle of Hastings (f)
4.00 The Learning Curve New series. The Times columnist Libby Purves discusses life-changing possibilities (1/10)
4.30 Stoop Tally Business matters, presented by Hastiner Paylon.

Heather Paylon

5.00 PM with Clare English and Chris Lowe
6.00 Shx O'Clock News
6.30 The Cheese Shop Presents Comedy sketches
with Gerard Foster, Dave Lamb, Gordon Southern,
Tim Veninder, Ben Ward and Richard Webb.
7.15 Front Row The nighting site and Section Row The Archers
7.15 Front Row The nighting site and Richard Row The Archers
7.15 Front Row The nighting site and Richard Row The Archers
7.15 Front Row The nighting site and Richard Row The Archers
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7.15 Front Row The nightly arts programme, presented by John Wilson
7.45 Lady Susan Lavinta Murray's adeptation of Jane Austran's Lady Susan, Broadcast earlier as part of Winnan's Hart IA Women's Hour (r)

8.00 True Colours — South Africa Today What does the learn hold for Johannesburg's write

the luture hold for Johannesburg's writte population?

8.40 in Touch Presented by Peter White 9.00 Case Notes Special: No Issue Tracy Logan examines the luture of letting 9.30 No Triumph, No Tragedy (r)

10.00 The World Tonight with Anne McKenzie 10.45 Book at Bedtimes Name Juset Stevenson reads part seven of Emile Zole's tale 11.00 Late Niight on 4: The Patrick and Maureen Maryle Music Experience Guest Judiet Stevenson walks out on the bictening couple. With Peter Johes, Leonie Mellinger and John Fersm 11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament Political update 1 Kats Harper reads part two of Alson Lurie's novel
12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1: FM 97.5-99.8. RADIO 2: FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693; 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55ara). Television and radio listings compiled by lan Hughes, Ro

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		All interest rates applicable to Toilored Loans will be reduced by 0.50%				
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8.75%	N/A	Advantage Premier Loan	8.50%	N/A		
11.00%	11.57%	Gold Plus	10.75%	11.29%		
11.25%	11.84%	Premium Unsecured	10.75%	11.29%		
10.25%	10.74%	Premium Secured	9.75%	10.19%		
16.00%	17.22%	Special Unsecured	15.50%	16.64%		
15.00%	16.07%	Special Secured	14.50%	15.50%		
21.25%	23.44%	Standard Unsecured	20.75%	22.84%		
20.25%	22.23%	Standard Secured	19,75%	21.63%		
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THE SUCCESS STORY OF THE NINETIES CAN YOU ALWAYS GET YOUR COPY? Dear Newsagent. Please deliver/save me a copy of THE TIMES

SOLUTION TO WINNING MOVE I, Bb3! Qxb3; 2. Qg6+ KhS; 3. Qxe8+ and wins easily.

(c) The cycle of two hundred and sixty days constituting the sa-cred calendar of the Maya. The Maya maintained two distinct

counts. For religious purposes they used a sacred year (tzolkin)

(a) Scottish dialect for a public wash-house. "It was the talk of the

steamie, so to speak. It was a topic of conversation at the

(a) The name of the Mongol dynasty established as rulers of all

China by Kublai Khan in 1279 and in power until 1368. In Chi-

nese the word means "first". It also is an obsolete unit of Chinese

currency introduced in 1914, equal to 10 jiao. Kublai Khan

named his kingdom Yuan in 1271, and the Yuan dynasty is often

described as beginning in that year. The wreckers had found,

(c) An end-blown Japanese flute, made of bamboo. From the Jap-

anese words for measures of length. 'The first half was devoted

during their work, the foundations of a gate of the Yuan era."

to traditional pieces, performed on the shakuhachi, a simple

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Four men in a comic league of their own

edly neurotic host and hostess giving their visiting nephew the house tour and explaining the bathroom rules with the diny, And then there's the towel: white for hands, brown for feet, green for torso, thighs and seat; in the cupboard, neath the stair, you'll find the red for pubic hair", both surreally funny but also realistic enough to strike a chord, then you're the sort of person who may have their next few Monday evenings sorted out watching The League of Gentlemen (BBC2). It is always hard to tell after just one episode of a new series, but already it has the feel of a cult show.

Written and performed by the 1997 Perrier Award winners Mark Gatiss, Steve Pemberton, Reece Shearsmith and Jeremy Dyson, The League of Gentlemen raises. its head above much of the competition both through the weirdness of its comic vision, and by the care

fyou find the idea of a dement- which has been taken with every of from remote railway stations: this last detail.

Tubbs and Edward - the deeply deranged couple who run the local shop of the fictional northern village of Royston Vasey in the mid-dle of nowhere (at any rate, nowhere you'd want to go) - not only evince that tell-tale fidgetiness when unfamiliar out-of-towners enter their shop, the shelves are stacked with exactly the sort of useless or unappealing foods or trin-kets that nobody apart from village shops ever sells.

Every stick of furniture — even

the dizzying green and brown wall-papers — in the house of Amitie Val and Uncle Harvey, those neurotic hosts who are putting up their nephew Benjamin for a night before he begins his hiking holi-day, seems to have been chosen to chime with the characters of the houseowners. Then there's the slightly strange taxi driver you always get when you pick up a cab :

BEC2

7.00am Children's BBC Breakfast Show:

Treesure Hunt (2363015) 7.50 Blue Pe

The Little Polar Besr (9643611) 7.05 Telefitibbles (2070928) 7.30 Yogi's

(2367831) 8.15 Taz-Manie (5772473) 8.40 Polka Doi Shorts (8275783) 8.50 Oake Doke (8271947) 9.00 German Globo (7325980) 9.05 Hallo aus Berlin (7324251) 9.10 Working It Out (7188454) 9.35 Techno (8320024) 9.45 Microby

(33425)] 3.49 Wording it Out (7188494) 9.25 Techno (6330034) 9.45 Number-time (8378270) 10.00 Telegubbles (90137) 10.30 Weatch (5944454) 10.45 Science Zone (3259589) 11.05 Space Ark: (9722299) 11.15 Megamaths (1594473) 11.35 Words and Pictures (2367676) 11.50 History File (2344725)

12.10pm English Express (4003725) 12.30 Working Lunch (41102)

1.00 Oeide Doke (73716638)

2.40 News; Weather (1) (8088541)

2.45 Westminster (T) (9920170)

3.25 News; Weather (1) (2024102)

1.10 The Arts and Crafts Hour (2524980)

2.10 Sporting Greats With the swimmer Duncan Goodnew (22252676)

3.30 Birds with Tony Soper.(7) (8147657)
3.56 Till the Clouds Roll By (1946) Musical biopic of the composer Jerome Kern, Robert Walker and Judy Garland star. Directed by Richard Whorf (28829473)

6.00 Fresh Prince of Bel-Air (r) (257638)

7.30 From the Edge includes a call for better

access to sporting stadiums (1) (657)

8.00 University Challenge Magdalen
College vine Open University (1) (1218)

8.30 Rick Stein's Sectood Odyssey The

9.00 Morecambe and Wise Quips and

sketches (r) (1) (350183)

chef ventures to the Comish coast where

he cooks Turbot Valee d'Auge (1) (8025)

6.25 Heartbreak High (T) (664893)

7.10 The O Zone (1) (458102)

one's called Barbara and he's a chuntering on about the new roadbuilding projects, regales his passengers with the improbable details of his sex-change operation.

The scenes are full of incidental visual jokes (often groresque) and the acting is good enough for you often to have. to remind yourself that all the key parts are played by just three players (Dyson being the only one of the foursome who doesn't per-

You wonder how Cilla Black and Blind Date have lasted so long until you see something like Dis es (Channel 4), in the first of which three men tried to win the heart of or at least a date with - a 19-year-old student by titillating her palate. One produced a friedegg sandwhich, another cooked haggis, the last created sticky tofREVIEW



fee pudding. The pudding chef got to accompany the female student on a a date to an Italian restau-

Joe

rant. Danny Brown and Kate-Thornton look after the girls and the boys, respectively, but have the desparate air of doctors in an Accident and Emergency department trying vainly to resuscitate a limp

Though barely half as long as Dishes, the short film Yellow,

of Channel 4's showcase for new directors, was at least 150 times as bewitching. Written and directed by Simon Beaufoy (who also wrote The Full Monty and Billie Eliringham, Yellow was a raut, haunting film which exposed the tensions rupturing the relationships between a man, played by Ray Win-stone, his lover and her young daughter as they drive off for a seaside picnic. An air of menace builds as the manipulative young ould you imagine any othgirl - jealous of the new man on the end of her mother's fingertips

he'll not be bothering her or her mother any more. Gathering the money to make even short magical films like these is a headache - certainly compared to sucking money out of Brussels if you happen to be a big farmer. In the second episode of his campaign to tweak the ear of

- traps the well-meaning Win-

stone in a situation which ensures

shown on Shooting Gallery, part British farming, Oliver Walston who himself receives £180,000 a year in European Union farm sub-sidies - spent last night's Against The Grain (BBC2) ploughing the country for an answer to the question of why farmers who grow wheat that nobody wants are feather-bedded when, say, Sunder-land's once busy shipyards are now all but silent because nobody wants their ships.

> er industry benefiting from an intervention system?" he asks in his blunt, boyish manner, perching on an Eiger of EU-owned barley stockpiled in Yorkshire. "A dishwasher company that could not sell dishwashers, and instead of grain you had dishwashers piled up from floor to ceiling? We'd say it was crazy. But the people who would say it longest and loudest would be farmers, because there's a streak of hypocrisy

decides to produce either flowerpots or fluffy toys he first assesses market demand. I have never been bothered by those tedious details." Walston — who farms 2,000

acres in Cambridgeshire - is not saying that small farmers, some of whom are barely surviving, don't deserve some government help. But his jaw gapes at how we have come to accept the Lewis Carroll world of the common agriculture policy as a sane way to run farming, especially when farmers al-ready enjoy other benefits such as zero rates on land, inheritance tax breaks, and being bailed out by tax-payers after the BSE crisis.

Like many other policies, the CAP was drafted with good intentions: but - as with feeding cows sheep protein - it has all gone creepily wrong. Anybody who has reservations about jumping straight into the euro should be watching this series.

6.00am Business Breakfast (20378) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (1) (47947) 9.00 Kilroy (T) (8705893) 9.45 The Vanessa Show (T) (5178763) 10.55 News; Weather (T) (7044657).

11.00 Real Rooms (7054034) 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (7024893) 11.55 News; Weather (T) (1257589) 12.00pm Call My Bluff (18386)

12.30 Battersea Dogs' Home (43560) 1.00 One O'Clock News (1) (40034) 1.30 Regional News; Weather (86738893) 1.40 Neighbours Lance convinces Bill to place a bet (T) (65425909)

2.05 Ironside Threats to a parole officer arouse suspicion when it turns out the men is particularly hard on drug cases. William Shatner guest stars (i) (7701,183) 2.55 Going for a Song (8603638). 3.20 The Weather Show Stories about the

weather (1): (2034589) 3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (7178198) 3.45 The Enchanted Lands: The Adventures of the Wishing Chair (9103541) 3.55 Hububb (8537522) 4.10 Chipmunks Go to the Movies (2637283)
4.35 The Really Wild Show (1780725)
5.00 Newsround (5507454) 5.10 See How They Run (6647909)

5.33 Rewind (T) (981183) 5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (144102) 6.00 Six O'Clock News; Weather (T) (251) 6.30 Regional News Magazine (831) 7.00 Holiday Jil Darido samples the delights

of Tunisia, while Michael McNally takes a cruise around Florida and the Bahamas. Plus, Carol Smille brushes up her cookery skills at the Scottish Chefs' Centre in Glasgow (1) (4928) 7.30 EastEnders Tensions threaten to disrupt Tiffany's funeral (T) (943473)



Hospital. Surgeons Meyer and Jordan race against time to carry out a transplant operation (T) (457386) 9.00 Nine O'Clock News; Regional News;

Weather (T) (8837) 9.30 Paddington Green The bus conductor Darny Green comes into conflict with his bosses (T) (30096)-10.00 Patriot Games (1992) A former CIA

agent toils a terrorist stack on a member of the Royal Family white holidaying in Britain — only to become a target himself. Political thriller, starring Harrison Ford and Sean Bean, Directed by Philip.

Noyce (1) (399541)

11.55 Silent Microe (1992) A Hollywood screenwriter is accused by a mystery man of stealing his ideas. Thriller, with Patricia Wettig. Directed by Lee Philips 1.20am Weather (4840665) 1.25 BBC News 24 (31243771)

Tense times during surgery in the new medical drama (8.10pm)

Michael Portillo travels through Spain in search of his roots (9.25pm)

Great Railway Journays Michael Portillo reveals his Spanish roots as he travels from Granada to Salamanca (T) (254947)

10.15 Shooting the Past (T) (905102)

10.20 The Whitbread Announcement Juliet
Morris announces the winners of the
Whitbread Book Awards (993367)

10.30 Newsnight (T) (853928) 11.15 Trial by Jury A man is accused of murdering his wife (2/3) (T) (997096) 11.55 Weather (153980)

12.00 Despatch Box Political news (77329) 12.30em BBC Learning Zone: Open University Sidde Cell — A Lethal Advantage 1.00 A Thread of Quicksiver 7-30 Uncertain Principles 2.00 Schools: Teaching Today — Getting Started with ICT/Teaching Today Plus — ICT. 4.00 Languages: Get By in Spanish: — Part Cine 5.09 Business and Training: Career Moves 21: Dynamic Job Search 5.45
Open University: Reading the Landscape
6.35 A Source of Inspiration 5.30am JTN Morning News (14270) 6.00 GMTV (6837218) 9.25 Trisha (T) (3601589)

10.30 This Morning (1) (24278299) 12.15pm HTV News (1) (9495367) 12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (1) (45928) Kennedy's (35102)

1.30 Home and Away Donald and Marilyn clash over Sam (1) (44299) 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show Outrageous American talk show (T) (2935473)

2.45 Supermarket Sweep (T) (506522) 3.15 ITN News Headlines (T) (2022744) 3.20 HTV News (T) (2029657)

3.25 CTTV: Mopetop's Shop (2002980) 3.35 Rosis and Jim (8542454) 3.50 The Wombles (9195522) 4.00 Cow and Chicken (9627676) 4.25 Mike and Angelo (9382116) **4.50** How 2 (92089)

5.10 A Country Practice Hugo falls madly in love (2505706) 5.40 (TN Early Evening News (T) (742893) 5.59 HTV Crimestoppers (995386) 6.00 Home and Away (/) (T) (244164) 6.25 WALES: Wales Tonight (1) (954928) 6.25 WEST: HTV Weather (330560) 6.30 The West Tonight (1) (299) 7.00 Emmerdale Kim and Steve go on trial (T)

7.30 Who Wants to be a Millionaire Big-prize game show (T) (75034)



A look at the everyday lives of the easyJet staff (8.30pm)

8.30 CHOICE Airline New series following the trials and tribulations of stati and customers of the no-irilis schedule airine easyJet (1) (7251) 9.00 Peak Practice Joanna is offered a job at

dilemma on her hands. Medical drama. starring Gary Mavers and Haydn Gwynne (2/13) (T) (6251) 10.00 News at Ten; Weather (T) (32693)

10.30 HTV News and Weather (T) (145541) 10.40 CHOICE Someone to Watch Over Me The effects of Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy (T) (978676)

11.40 An Imnocent Man (1989) Family man
Tom Selleck is framed by two corrupt
reproduces officials desperate to cover up

their own mistakes. Gritty thriller, co-starring F. Murray Abraham. Directed by Peter Yates (1) (52939096) 1.50am The Haunted Fishtank irreverent TV review with Ed Hell (8202085)
2.20 Highlander Female Immortal Amanda

makes an unwelcome return, hothy pursued by crooks determined to get their hands on a set of counterfeiting plates she's acquired (r) (6623139) 3.15. Wish You Were Here? (r) (T) (45394)

3.45 Football Extra Football League highlights (r) (8284232) 4.40 Soundtrax (88555058) 4.50 ITV Nightscreen Behind the scenes of

ITV programmes (6428435)

CENTRAL As HTV West except:

ا هري المامن المامل

12.20-12.30pm Central (6011015) 1.00 Headfiners (35102) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (9033270) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away (507251) 3.20-3.25 Central News (2029657)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (2505706) 6.25-7.00 Central News; Weather (954928 10.30-10.40 Central News; Weather (145541) 4,35em Central Joblinder '99 (5402023) 5,20-5,30 Asian Eye (4275481)

As HTV West except. 12.15-12.27pm Westcountry News; Weather (9495367)

12.27-12.30 liter 1.00 Emmerdale (35102) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (9033270) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away (507251) 3.20-3.25 Westcountry News; We

(2029657) 5.08 Birthday People (8626164) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (2505706) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (53947) 10.30-10.40 Westcountry News; Weather (145541)

SERVICE A SERVICE AND A SERVIC

As HTV West except: 12.15-12.30pm Meridian News; Weather

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (2505706) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (947) 6.30-7.00 Grass Roots Special (299) 10.30-10.40 Meridian News; Weather 5.00-5.30am Freescreen (62058)

As HTV West except 12.19cm Anglia Air Watch (956-52) \$250-72.20 Tanglia News and Wastrie (897-615) 1.00-1.30 Upshott (r) (\$5102) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (2505706) 6.23 Angila Weather (348589) 6.25-7.00 Angila News (1) (954928) 10.29 Angila Air Watch (1) (954928) 10.29 Angila News and Weather (1) (145541)

Starts: 5.00am Sesame Street (f) (21806183) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (47035218) 9.00 Ysgolion: Science in Focus (41044299) 9.20 What the Papers Said (72555522) 9.30 Eurekal (89663218) 9.45 Eritrea (89651473) 10.00 The Number Crew (71888541) 10.10 TVM (35918763) 10.25 How We Used to Live (35897270) 10.45 Worlds of Faith (39121183) 11.00 First Edition (18175928) 11.15 Stage One (18158251) 11.30 Powerhouse (24984473) 12.00pm Bewitched (16616926) 12.30 Sesame_Street (f) (38601102) 1.00 Planed Plant; (1) Brynseren (54458096) 1.10 Clwc (59726096) 1.20 Deri Deg: Y Picnic (59715980) 1.30 Binky Can't Fly (69965725) 1.40 FiLM: The Mark of Zorro (T) (44388247) 3.30 Hampton Court Palace (T) (56398909) 4.00 Fitzen-to-One (T) (58300744) 4.30 Dishes (56306928) 5.00 Planed Plant (89880378) 5.30 Countdown (T) (56380980) 8.00 Newyddion 6 (T) (89269270) 6.10 Heno (T) (95978367) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (T) (91782414) 7.30 Newyddion (T) (56307657) 8.00 Y Sioe Gelf (T) (97985742) 8.30 Pengelli (T) (91782469) 9.00 Rat (T) (77673742) 10.00 Rat (T) (77673742) 10.00 (1) (917/2/469) 9.00 Feet (1) (7/6/3/42) 10.00 Brookside (1) (54188270) 10.35 Mayday (36445560) 11.35 Short Stories (1) (69873034) 12.05am The Real Holiday Show (5/8) (1) (57164955) 12.35 Cutting Edge Special: Trimble (1) (45059329) 1.35 Diwedd 4.00 Ysgolion:

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Sesame Street (94928) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (30657)

9.00 Schools: Science in Focus (6513367) 9.20 What the Papers Said (7321164) 9.30 Eureka (8375183) 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (8370638) 10.00 The Number Crew (4818367) 10.10 TVM (9583928) 10.25 How We Used to Live (9595763) 10.45 Worlds of Faith (5967305) 11.00 First Edition (6507251) 11.15 Stage One (6520102)

11.30 Powerhouse (T) (4522) 12.00 Sesame Street (82116) 12.30pm Bewitched (T) (36270)

1.00 Pet Rescue (r) (T) (33744) 1.30 Roots to Success (I) (30457855) 1.50 Until They Sail (1957) Four sisters fail

for American mannes based in New Zealand, Starring Paul Newman, Directed by Robert Wise (T) (61659725) 3.30 Hampton Court Palace (T) (305)

4.00 Fifteen-to-One (1) (812) 4.30 Countdown (T) (1754164) 4.55 Ricki Lake (1) (4865522) 5.30 Pet Rescue (1) (676)

5.00 King of the Hill (r) (1) (589) 6.30 Home Improvement Tim's refusal to break his routine makes everyone's tile impossible (T) (315251) 6.55 Planet Pop (741812)

7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather (T) (606164) 7.50 Gilbert and Suillivan: The Very Models (f) (235096)

8.00 Brookside Lindsey discovers Peter's whereabouts (T) (6386) 8.30 Classic Aircraft Exploration of the new

roles found for old aircraft (T) (5893) 9.00 Rat Mark Lewis' eward-winning film exploring man's struggle to control the world's rat population (1) (4893)

10.00 Father Ted A boring priest descends on Craggy Island (r) (T) (347657) 10.35 Bob and Margaret Bob's cousin pays a risit (T) (173183)



Marie Leith takes to the ring for her first professional bout (11.05pm)

11.05 Short Stories New documentary series A pair of female boxers as they travel to Scotland for their first international fight

11.40 Dope Sheet Animation (T) (281102) 12.00 Beyond Dope Sheet Introduction An evening of animation (9738058) 12.10am War Story (5968110) 12.15 Morris Jelly. House of Fashion (6766042) 12.30 His Mother's Voice (7878874) 12.50 A is for Autism (1928706) 1.00 Going Equipped (9829348) 1.10 Some Protection (9818232) 1.20 Pro and Con (9732868) 1.35 Glassy Ocean Animation (7557972) 2.00 Britannia Hospital (1982) Cornedy about a hospital beset by disaster while preparing to celebrate its 500th

anniversary, Malcolm McDowell and Leonard Rossiter star. Directed by Lindsay Anderson (T) (16077) 4.00 Schools: TOPI 2 (14058)

6.00am 5 News and Sport Current events

7.00 WideWorld Part three. How the peacock developed its magnificent train (3/10) (r) (f) (9038676)

7.30 Milkshake! (1805639) 7.35 Wimzie's House (r) (9769589) 8.00 Havakazoo (r) (1192980) 8.30 Dappledown Farm (1191251)

9.90 Weather Front (r) (1115831) 9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6551725) 10.20 Sunset Beach Gabi gets more intimate

with Antonio (1) (2159473) 11.10 Leeza (r) (2046299) 12.00 5 News at Noon (T) (1102367) 12.30pm Family Affairs Dave thinks he's off the hook (r) (T) (9978096)

1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful Sheila hopes for a reconciliation (T) (9037947) 1.30 The Roseanne Show (9977367) 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (6398367)

2.30 Good Afternoon (4580831) 3.30 Lies Boys Tell (1994) A dying man takes his son on a cross-country trip of self-discovery to the place of his birth. Heart-warming family drama, staming Kirk Douglas. Directed by Tom

McLoughlin (T) (9664522) 5.20 Sunset Beach Shown earlier (r) (T); 5 News Update (6113251) 6.00 100 Per Cent Computer-generated quiz

6.30 Family Affairs Jamie leaves home (T)

7.00 5 News; Weather (T) (6392183) 7.30 Champions of the Wild The work of the which was set up to provide a safe-haven for homeless monkeys (T) (5239812)

8.00 Perfect Bables New series. Developments in genetic engineering and the ethical dilemmes posed if prospective parents are offered the possibility of selecting the genetic make-up of their babies. Proneering work to determine the sex of a child and eradicate hereditary disease is now accepted practice but what are the implications for humanity search is not rec Update (5560980)

9.00 Bat 21 (1988) Fect-based Vietnam War drama, starring Gene Hackman as an ageing Army official shot down behind enemy lines just as his own forces are about to carpet-bomb the area. Danny Glover co-stars as the pilot assigned to guide him to safety from the eir. Directed Peter Markle (T): 5 News Update (5570367)

11.00 Two Gus returns to Seattle for Serah's tuneral, only to find himself at the centre of an ambush and face to face with Edward and the barrel of a gun (2103183) 11.55 The Jack Docherty Show Chat and music (1702831)

12.35am Live and Dangerous Action from round five of the Nascar Winter Heat (77906955)3.45 Asian Football Show Weekly round-up

(7506961) 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H Eddie risks his life to rescue Sonia and Myra realises the odds are against her (3065348)

5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (2180233)

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SKY ONE

7.00am Count Fuctous (83783) 7.30. The Cris Evens Breakest Straw (4804) 8.30 holywood Squares (65560) 9.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (66857), 10.00 The Oponi Wirdiey Show (58454) 11.00 Cultyl (88216) 12.00pm Jerry Jones (71367) 1.00 Med About You (82034) 1.30 Jeopardy (84631) 2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (46744) 3.00 Jerry Jones (85725) 4.00 Guiltyl (86309) 5.00 Star Trek. Deep Space Nine (5299) 5.00 Star Trek. Deep Space Nine (5299) 6.00 Mertad — With Children (2831) 6.30 Dream Team (3183) 7.00 The Sampsons (6928) 7.30 The Simpson's (9367) 8.00 Places Medics (5678 8.30 Coppers (4183) 9.00 World's Wildest Poice Videos (36218) 10.00 Greece Underead (9303) 11.00 Dream Team (93819) 11.30 Star Trek. Deep Space Nine (38098) 12.30am Highlander (29418) 1.30 Long Play (508348) SKY BOX OFFICE SKY BOX OFFICE

Volcano (1997) SKY BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60) Excess Baggage (1997) GI Jane (1997) SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59) George of the Jungle (1997) Starship Troopers (1997) Sky BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58)

FILMFOUR 6.00pm Pickup on South Street (1953) (8056783) 7.30 Forty Guns (1957) (3340725) 9.00 The Typewriter, the Rife and the Moute Camera (798650) 10.09 and RP MONE Lattera (1280500) 10.09 The Resized Kies: (1964) (6935270-11.30 Fixed: Bayonetal (1951) (1531218) 1.05am Pierrolie-Fou (1965) (5998965) 2.50 Cal (1984) (4506787) 4.30, L'Atelante (1934) (9644694) 6.00 Close SKY PREMIER

6.00sts Race for Your Life, Charlie Brown (1977) (72201) 8.00 Old Yeller (1957) (35636) 10.00 Star Trak Str The Search for Spack (1984) (8218) 12.00pm The Directors The Figure of Norman Jewison (97305) 1.00 Hollywood Buzz (73725) 2.00 Race for Your Life, Charle Repair (1977) 285054 Am Cité.

© For further listings Sec | Teller (1997) (1473) 8.00 Star Test III: The Search for Spock (1984) (31763) 8.00 The Arrivel (1996) (75760) 10.00 SKY ONE | Section According (83763) 7.20 The Chris Events Breakfact Show (46034) 8.30 Primal Feier (1996) (2381(251) 2.00mm Chris Events Breakfact Show (46034) 8.30 Primal Feier (1996) (7586) (7

SKY MOVIEMAX

SKY MOVIEMAX
5.35em Heart Put of Rain (1997)
(88787893) 7.10 American Hot Wax
(1978) (11579473) 2.00 To-Brave Alesta
(1998) (4050) 11.00 Shoutdown (1988)
(24744) 1.00pm American Hot Wax
(1978) 51876] 3.00 There to Say
Goodbye? (1997) (23812) 5.00
Shoutdown (1988) (40509) 7.00 To BraveAlasta, (1998) (6587) 3.00 Second
Chance (1997) (11909) 11.00 The Killing
Grounds (1997) (11909) 11.00 The Killing
Grounds (1997) (445454) 12.35em
Poison Iny: The New Seduction (1997)
(457955) 2.10 Cell Me (1988) (831874)
3.45 Patry Hearnt (1989) (569752)

SKY CINEMA SKY CIRIEMA
4.00pm Drugnet (1954) (8014960) 6.06
The Great Lower (1949) (7492863) 8.00
Three Hours in Kill (1954) (7404633)
10.00 100 Years — (1014046): Beyond the
Law (8623893) 10.55 The Prench
Conspection (1971) (72718657) 12.40em
The Lagend of Hell House; (1973)
(334706) 2.15 Beyond the Clouds
(1965) (4547674) 4.00 The Black Boom
(1935) (5516674)
ThT

8.00pm Scarumouche (1982) (36824639) 11.15 The Night of the Iguane (1984) (77542744) 1.20pm Honly Torik (1981) (6703)689 3.30 The Naked Spur (1863) (84833697) 5.00 Close

7.00mm Sports Centre 7.35 V-Mex 7.45
1/20 8.15 Sports Centre 8.30 Recing News9.00 Astrobics 9.30 You're On Sig Sports
19.00 League Review 11.00 Teathfor
12.00pm Aerobics 12.30 Footbal 2.00
Spenier Footbal 4.00 Total Sport 4.30
World, Windsuring 5.00 Wieselag 6.00 Speries Process Auto Tree Spot 4-au World, Windowing 5.00 Winseling 5.00 Sports Centre 6.30 Inside Spottesh Footbell 7.30 Festrax, B.00 Live Greyhound Record 10.00 Sports Centre 10.15 You're On Sey Sports; 70.45 Inside Scottish Footbell 11.45 Sports Centre 12.00 are You're On Stat Secret 11.30 Protestors 2.00 Sports Sky Sportel 12.20 Bachinton 2.30 Sports Centre 2.45 Close

SKY SPORTS 2 SKT-SP-UH1-S Z

7.00em Aerobics 7.30 Sports Centre 7.45
Racing News 8.15 World Wendeuring 8.45
Sports Centre 9.00 Fish TV 10.00 World
Motor Sport 1.00pm Mex Power 2.00
Rating 3.00 World Motor Sport 6.00 Sports
Unimated 7.00 Tradition 8.00 Bedminton
10.00 Fasters 10.30 Reting 11.39 Figure
Stating 1.30em Sports Centre 1.45 Fasters
2.16 Sports Unimited 3.15 Sports Centre
3.30 Live intermediated
SKY SPORTS 3 SKY SPORTS 3

12.00pm Wresting 1.00 Fish TV 2.00 A to Z of Motor Sport 2.00 Dicker Davies' Sporting of Motor Stort 2.30 Dictie Daves' Sporting Heroes 3.30 Total Sport 4.00 Monday Night Footbal Special 5.30 Festax 6.00 Relian 7.00 Fish TV 8.00 Figure Stating 10.00 Boting Superbouts 11.00 Olympic Series. Road to Nagario 11.30 Close EUROSPORT

T-30ses Reby 8.00 Live Women's Cross-Country String 9.00 Live Againe String 9.45 Live Cross-Country String 12.00pm Live Aprice String 14.00 Againe Sking 5.00 Showboarding 6.00 Eurogoeis 7.50 Live Boring 3.30 Reby 10.00 Footbel 11.00 Strongmen 12.00em Reby 12.30 Close UK GOLD 7.00mm Crossneeds 7.30 Neighbours 7.55 EastEnders 8.30 The Bit 9.30 The House of

EssEnders 8.30 The Bit 9.30 The House of Elion 10.30 Angels 11.00 Calles 11.55 Neighbours 12.25pm: EastEnders 1.00 Juliet Braco 2.00 Dates 2.55 The 88 3.55 EastEnders 4.30 Angels 5.00 All Creatures Great and Small 9.00 Dynasty 7.00 May to December 7.40 th Airth Hell Hot, Marth 8.20 Yea, Nanster 9.00 Feel Dwarf IV 9.40 This Us 10.35 MYPD: Bite 11.35 The Bit 12.25 arm Spender 1.35 Nerhoo 2.30 Live at Jongleurs 3.00 Streamshop



PAY TV: SATELLITE, CABLE AND DIGITAL

Classic Coronation Street 8.30 The Bran Conley Show 10.00 Jokest Wild 10.30 Hogan's Heroes 11.30 Men and Motors DISNEY CHANNEL

8.00am Beer in the Big Blue House 6.25 Classic Toons 6.35 Gummi Bears 7.00 Classic Toons 7.10 Aladdin 7.35 101 Great and Small 6.00 Dyresty 7.00 May to
December 7.46 it Airit Helt Hot, Murt 8.20
Yea, Minator 9.00 Red Dwerf IV 9.40 This
Life 16.30 NYPD Bue 11.35 The Bill
12.35eam Spender 1.35 hearing 2.30 Live
at Jonghurs 3.00 Screenshop
GRANADA PLUS

6.00ean Within Riese Walls 7.00 On the
Buses 7.30 The Fern Street Gang 8.00
Their's My 60y 8.30 Second Thoughts 9.00
Classic Coronelion Sireet 8.30 Emeradals
Form 10.00 thirtystmething 11.00 Hewes
Rive O 12.00gan Casalac Coronesion Street
12.30 Emmerdale Farm 1.00 Neiness and
Dearest 1.30 Welching 2.00 thirtysomething 11.00 Hewes
12.30 Emmerdale Farm 1.00 Neiness and
Dearest 1.30 Welching 2.00 thirtysomething 15.00 The Love Boat 4.00 The Saint
8.00 Hayasil-Rive O 6:00 Emmerdale Farm
6.30 Classic Coronelion Street 7.00 Mission: Impossible 8.00 The Love Boat 9.00

6.00am Mupper Babes 6.30 Rocko's Modem Life 7.00 Cetition 7.30 Rugrass 8.00 The Wald Thomberry 8.30 Arthur 9.00 Cloiden's EBC 18.00 VAnne's House 10.30 Sates 11.00 The Mage School Bus 11.30 PB Bear/Budge the Little Heticopter/Annal Antics/Farnay Ness. 12.00pm Rugrats 12.30 Little Bear Stores 2.00 Classes Kop. Britishlitenber Earl 2.00 Classes Kop. Britishlitenber Earl

My Date with the President's Daughter (1997) 9.30 Home Improvement, 10.00 Dinosaus; 10.30 Wonder Years 11.00 Dr Cuntr. Medicine Women 12.00em Close

6.00em Power Rangers Turbo 7.00 Montal Kombat 7.25 Oggy and the Cockmaches 7.30 Donkey Kong County 8.00 Gooseburgs 8.25 Sam and Max 6.35 Spidemen 9.00 X-Men 9.25 Fanlastic Four 9.50 The Incredible Hulk 10.15 Casper 10.30 Oggy and the Monster 11.05 Eak/Stravagartza 11.30 Hull with Love 11.55 Mone to Bend 11.30 Hull with Love 11.

and the Norther 11.05 Exchanage to Ren 11.30 Life with Louis 11.55 Home to Ren 12.05pm Sam and Max 12.30 Donkey kong Country 1.00 Moveji 1.25 Ace Venture 1.50 Spiderman 2.15 X-Men 2.40 Fastastic Four 3.05 The Inceptible Huli-3.30 Roy and Lisa's Big Fide 3.35 Montal Kombar 4.00 Spiderman 4.25 Montal Kombar 4.00 Spiderman 4.25 Montal How Arbert pass of Lincel Bont 4.64 Home

Now Adventures of Jungle Book 4-50 Home to Rent \$.00 Goosebumps \$.25 Eene. Indian The Other Dimension \$.50 Oggvand the Continuations \$.55 Donkey Kong Country \$.26 Sam and Max 8.50 EskStravagenza 7.00 Close

FOX KIDS NETWORK

2.30 Children's BBC 3.00 Children's BBC 3.00 Pops Lengacciang 4.00 Hoy Annold 4.30 Right States 5.00 Salaman 4.00 Hoy Annold 4.30 Rugars 5.00 Salaman the Teenage Wilch 6.30 Driven Crazy 7.00 Close TROUBLE 7.00am USA High 8.00 Seved by the Bell The New Class 8.30 Hang Time 9.00 Tempest 10.00 Hollycels 10.30 Echo Pont 11.00 Sweet Valley High 11.30 Californa Dreams 12.00pm The Fresh Pinne of Bel-Ar 12.30 in the House 1.00 Tempest 2.00 Hollycals 2.30 Echo Pont 3.00 Roady or Not 3.30 City Guys 4.00 The Fresh Pinne of Bel-Ar 4.30 in the House 5.00 Seved by the Bell. The New Class 5.30 Sweet Valley High 6.00 Hang Time 6.30

NICKELODEON

BRAVO 8.00om The A-Team 9.00 LAP.D 9.30 Cops 10.00 Scary Sex 10.30 Eroto Sensa 11.00 FiLM: Best of the Best (1989) 1.00em Sex Bytes 1.30 Scary Sex 2.00 Extreme Championship Wite Cops 3.00 Fil.Mr. Jack's Back (1988) 5.00 LAP D 5.30 Bushed: 6.00 Close

PARAMOUNT COMEDY 7.00pm Cluekes 7.30 Desmond's 8.00 Roseanne B.30 Nows Radio 9.00 Cybel 9.30 Vic Reeves Big Night Out 10.00 Fresier 10.30 Cheers 11.00 Senteld 11.30 The Larry Sanders Show 12.00am Late Night with David Letterman 1.00 Tax 1.30 The Chic 2.00 Dr Katz 2.30 Soep 3.00 Tips and Fips 3.30 Nightstand 4.00 Close THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

SATELLITE: Spm-MIDNIGHT ONLY 7.30am Bloomberg Intermetion Televis

HOME & LEISURE 6.00am Today's Gournes 6,30 Graham Kerr 7.00 Cratterse 7,30 The Painted

House 8.00 Wedding Story 8.30 A Baby Story 9.00 Simply Pantang 9.30 Garden Rescue 10.00 Garden Doctors 10.30

DISCOVERY 4.00pm Rex Hurt Fishing Adventures 4.30
Walker's World 5.00 Flightline 5.30
History's Turning Points 6.00 Animal Doctor
6.30 Hurters 7.30 Beyond 2000 8.00 Great,
Escapes 8.30 The Death Zone 9.00
Traiblazers 10.00 Yukon Quest 11.00 The
U-Boat Wer 12.00pm Antardica 1.00
History's Turnes Preset 2.00 Flightline 2.00 History's Turning Points 1.30 Flightline 2.00

1.00pta Nature Warch with Julian Petitler 1.30 Austratia Wild 2.00 Breed All About It 2.30 Human/Nature 3.30 Hamy's Practice 4.00 Jack Hamma's 500 Life 4.30 Annual Doctor 5.00 Pet Rescue 5.30 Austratia Wild Doctor 5.00 Pol Resous 5.30 Austrial Wird 6.00 The New Adventures of Block Beauty 6.30 Lasse 7.00 Rediscovery of the World. Cape Hom 8.00 Armsal Doctor 8.30 Totally Australia. Resourcett Reinforces 8.30 Emergency Veta 10.00 The Last Paradises Torres Del Pane 10.30 Animal Delectivas 11.00 Al-Brd TV 11.30 Emergency Veta Special 12.00am Close

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 7.00pm Veterinanars and Hospitals 7.30 Chil War Games 8.00 The Fibro War 9.00 Natural Born Killers: On the Edge of Extriction 10.00 Isside NFL Films: The HISTORY

4.00pm The World at War. On Our Way 5.00 The Frigates 6.00 The Age of Emperors 7.00 The Odessa File

CARLTON FOOD 9.00am Food Network Daily 9.30 Food for Thought 10.00 Green Gournet 10.30 Wort-Though 10.00 Green Gourms; 10.30 Wort-eal Thompson Cooks 11.00 Wher's Cook-ing* 11.30 Kitchen College 12.00 Food Network Daily 12.30 Surprise Cheft 1.00 Food for Though 1.30 Thoroughly Modern British 2.00 Chec Bruno 2.30 Food Network Daily 3.00 Winter Nosh 3.30 Kitchen College 4.00 Rustie's Real Cooks 4.30 Turner's Tour of Hong Kong 5.00 Close

6.00em Try and Crew 6.20 Phoben the Frog **6.39** Johnson and Friends **6.45** Tay Tales **6.50** Polka Dot Shorts **7.00** Practical Tales 8.50 Poll-a Dot Shorts 7.00 Practical Parenting 7.30 Poll-a Dot Shorts 7.00 Practical Parenting 7.30 Poll-spoor Bubble 7.30 Califor 7.38 Bug Alem 7.38 Practical Parenting 8.00 Berney and Friends 8.30 Try Tales 8.35 Try and Crew 8.50 Practical Parenting 9.00 Del Show 9.30 The Roseanne Show 10.00 The Jeny Springer Show 10.50 Mazury Pouch 11.40 Berois de 12.10pm Animel Rescue 12.40 Rescue 911 1.10 Special Bables 1.40 Rescue 911 1.10 Special Bables 1.40 Rescue 911 1.70 Rescue 911 1.70 Special Bables 1.40 Rescue 911 1.70 Rescue 911 7.35 Animal Rescue 8.00 Martier Cell 9.00 Lz The Ericabeth Taylor Story 11.00 Sex Ute Down Under 12.00aca Close ZEE TV ZEE TV

5.00cm Punjabi Folk Song 6.30 Music Timo 6.00 Aap IQ Farmash 6.30 Usha Ushap Shoy 7.00 Festin 7.30 Darly News 8.00 Out and About 8.30 Saleab 9.00 Himateya's Hasr 10.00 Dhoop Melh Saw 11.00 Khane Khazana 11.30 Perampara 12.00pm FR.Mic Punjabi Movic: Dustmanni Di Aag 3.00 Zee Bangia 3.30 Cre Magic 4.00 Campus 4.30 Zee Top 10 6.30 Asshirwad 6.00 Libery 1-10 6.30 Hummi Tare Purr 7.00 Jee Soheb 7.30 Chata Cinerus A.00 News Schab 7-30 Chaio Comma 8.00 News Bulletin 8.30 Daraar 9.00 Zee Addicts 9.30 Zengeeren 10.00 Hadd Kar Di 12.00sen News Bulletin 12.30 Pakistan Business Week 1.00 Zee Bangin 1.30 Rashaf 2.00 FILISE Undu Movier Anmol Mohabbet

RACING 43

Whipping boys face further backlash

DANCE SPORT 46

Killick steps into limelight with Russian partner



TUESDAY JANUARY 12 1999

Veteran guides England to second victory with three balls to spare

Fairbrother revives glory days

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN BRISBANE

BRISBANE (Sri Lanka won toss): England beat Sri Lanka by four wickets

THIS time last year Neil Fairbrother was lost to international cricket. The batsman, who excelled in the 1992 World Cup, when England reached the final in Melbourne, and he made a hard-fought fifty, was no longer the same player. He should never have been taken anywhere near the sub-continent four years later, for the next tournament, and seemed to be winding down towards a cosy retirement.

The wheel has turned once more, and "Harvey" has turned with it. Suddenly, at 35, he has become a fitter man. He cannot swoop and throw as once he did, in his prime, but he is no longer fearful of hearing his hamstrings snap when he chases the ball. And

ICC's power surge...

limited-overs cricket, as an unbeaten innings of 67 proved here. Without it, England would have stood no chance of beating Sri Lanka.

Some time in the past five years, and it is hard to say just when, the young man in a hurry transformed himself into a senator. When the question was put to him afterwards, he said: "If it is to be the grand old man, I don't mind." I bet he doesn't. Recalled to the England one-day team in Bangla-desh three months ago, when he made a half century against South Africa, the eventual winners of that mini-World Cup, he must feel that every day is a

strokes, and he found one to

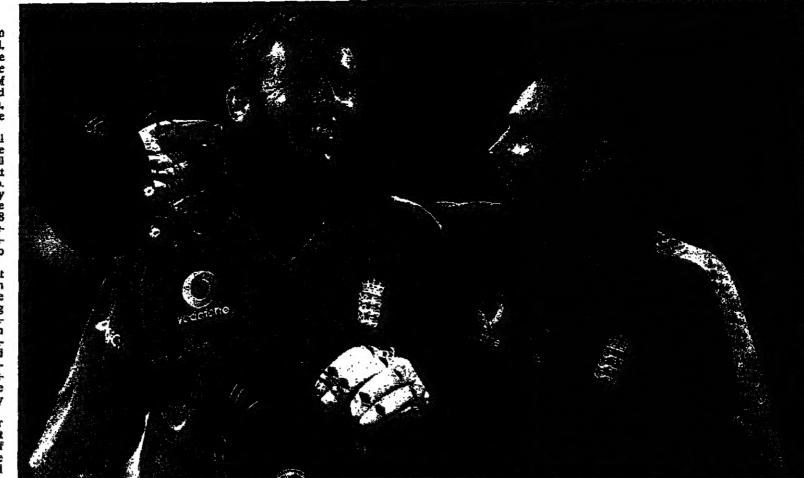
Jayasuriya three overs from the end, with 16 runs wanted, but he cuts a more sober figure these days. Older, maybe wiser, but still capable of sprinting 20 yards swiftly and often, he is content to push, nudge, and squirt out the

runs, one a ball if possible. He earned his runs in full against Muralitharan, the freakish off spinner, who will join him at Lancashire next summer, after the World Cup. Muralitharan, tweaking away merrily, bamboozled three men as England chased 208 for victory. Alleyne, who some-how added 57 with Fairbrother for the fifth wicket, had no idea how to play him.

It was a spectacle that evoked pity and humour in equal measure until Alleyne was stumped down the leg side from the last ball of Muralitharan's tenth over when Tony McQuillan, the third umpire, gave a decision that could easily have gone the bats-man's way. Alleyne had collected 18 runs from the 50 balls he faced, but even he couldn't say where he found them.

flick, who struck a skyer almost as high as the Post Office Tower, was the first of Muralitharan's wickets, as he advanced to drive him as hard as he could. Kahrwitharana, the excitable wicketkeeper, followed the ball in flight towards the bowler only to retreat and take it, rather well as it turned out, directly over the bails he had left behind. With the first ball of his next

over Muralitharan beat Hollioake all ends up, drifting the ball through the batsman's defence, though the gate was big enough to admit a herd of cattle and a few stray sheep. Holoake walked off crest-fallen. He had bowled well earlier for his own three wickets, and is a proud man. He has the knack



Croft, left, and Fairbrother leave the field in jubilation after their partnership had taken England past the Sri Lanka total. Photograph: Ian Waldie

of making decent runs in these matches, and is an important player in this side, balancing the team at No 6 or, on this occasion, at No 5, which is, in fairness, one place too high. His dismissal made the score 130 for four and for a time all that Fairbrother and Alleyne could do was wave to each other, hoping there would be the occasional poor ball to put away. There were none. Instead they scampered singles, and preserved the six wickets

England still had. When Alleyne went, Ealham followed at once, and it took some sensible batting from Croft, who squeezed out runs through mid-wicket, to win the match with three balls to spare.

Sri Lanka made a fair start after Ranatunga won the toss. of the wonderful De Silva, and he may miss the whole tournament, but even without him there is plenty of scope in this batting order. Fortunately for

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2 (Kaluwitherana 1), 2-99 (Atapatiu 36), 3-102 (Atapatiu 36), 4-126 (Tillekeratne 12), 5-139 (Tillekeratne keratne 20), 5-185 (Tillekeratne 41), 7-200 (Tillekeratne 50),

England, Gough removed Jayasuriya in his first over, Hick holding a simple catch at second slip. Kaluwitharana,

and, latterly, Tillekeratne all passed fifty but the innings never gathered the sort of momentum that Sri Lanka wanted. Hollioake saw to that, taking three good wickets, after Kaluwitharana had swept Croft to deep square leg. Head-ley, the catcher, was the only one of six bowlers not to take a

FULL SCOREBOARD FROM BRISBANE

G A Hick e Kaluwitharana

A il Holliophe b Murailline

wicket. Mullally, the matchwinner on Sunday, again bowled well and Croft gave the batsmen little to hit.

Eventually, England got the runs they needed and Alec Stewart was pleased with his team's spirit, and their performance. "It's hard to win two games back-to-back in temperatures like that," the England captain said. "We may not have won the Ashes, but we're looking forward to this series, and have made a

plied his own comments. Looking back to the last World Cup, and ahead to the one that starts in May, he thought "the roles have been defined, strate gies have been laid out, and teams have been picked with them in mind. We know where we are going, and the spirit is very good."

 The Times one-day series

hotline - 0891 88146L Reports. updates and commentary. Calls cost 50p per minutes.

temphre: A J McCollan, Reference: P.E. yen, der Merwe (South Africa). Att. 12:363. TOURNAMENT DETAILS: Jan 10: Eng-land of Australia by 8 nms (revised larget)

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(Otabane).

Bust AND MATCHES TO COME (all
day-night): Jan 15; v Australia (Matbourne); Jan 15; v Australia (Matbourne); Jan 21; v Sri.
Larks (Addisire); Jan 28; v Australia (Adelaide); Jan 28; v Sri. Larks (Path); Feb 3; v
Sri Larks (Sydney); Feb 4; v Australia
(Sydney); Feb 10; Frat linel (Sydney), Feb
12; Second Snai (Malbourne). Feb 14;
Third linel (Melbourne).

Clifformised by Rif Sydney)

LOWEST LINE RENTAL

This offer is exclusive to **ODYSSEY**

England won by four wickets.

fight to status BY DAVID HANDS

Scottish

THE players of London Scot-tish, who have been subject all season to speculation that took them as far north as Edinburgh and now links them told yesterday by their chair-man, Tony Tiarks, that he was trying to resolve the economic

realities of a sport beset by the problems of professionalism.

"Our rughy team is doing a particularly good job and our players are the company."

Turks said after weekend revelations that Bristol are prepared to buy 100 per cent of the shareholding of a first-division chib to avoid exclusion from any Anglo-Welsh structure that may be agreed for ment season. Bristol, who lead the second division of the Allied Dunbar Premiership, have talked with Scottish and other first-division samgglers, to avoid the consequences of what they perceive to be a plot by "avaricious" proprietors of certain first division clubs.

We are dealing with the emotions of an amateur rughy club and Pm the first to uphold them." Tiarks said, "but there is a dilemma when the old ethos goes against the modern costs. The London Scottish [public limited] company is only one and a half years old. I have been told we are not members of the Scottish Righy Union. So it's plain we're not dealing with a 120-year-old club. The real world is pay day."

There has been no debate by London Scottish sharehold.

ers on the proposals outlined by Nick de Scossa, the Bristol thief executive, which—if aced upon - would merge the playing strength of both clubs and lose the Exiles identity. The appeal for Tlarks is in the established rugby population of Bristol set against the rash of rugby clubs competing for spectators in West London.

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Bristol's aggressive stance has embarrassed the Rugby Football Union (RFU), given the union's self-imposed dead-fine of January 31 for next sea-

son's structure to be agreed. The integrity of the existing regulations applies: if you are promoted, you go into divi-sion one." Terry Burwell, the RFU's operations director, said but he cannot stimulate the competition into which Bristol will be promoted since talks of a two-division Anglo-Welsh league are ongoing.

WORLD

Marcel -, Fr. author (6) 4 A vegetable; burgeon (6) 8 Warm and comfortable (4) 9 Detailed examination (8)

10 Wife of US president (5,4)

13 Grey: (face) pale with shock (5) 15 Fusion (5) 16 (Japanese) mattress/bed (5) 18 A disbelieved prophet of doom (9)

21 (Body) framework (8) 22 Cut up; cut of meat (4) 23 Rectangular (6) 24 Daze (6)

1 Quieten (6) 2 Impede (8)
3 Fish by dragging net (5)
5 Mindlessly optimistic person (after E Porter) (9) 6 Displace (from role) (4) 7 One from Florence region (6)

11 Policeman's baton (9) 12 (Gone) wrong (5) 14 Privation (8) 16 Humiliating failure (6) 17 Meddle (with eg med

(6) 19 Skull cavity (5) 20 Moor; fierce, terrible (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1611 ACROSS: I Shamefaced 8 Bolster 9 Slash 10 Bind 11 Filament 13 Lubber 15 Wattle 17 Body blow 18 Evil 21 Taint 22 Inanity 23 Gamekeeper DOWN: 2 Helen 3 Mate 4 Firkin 5 Castaway 6 Dialect 7 Chatteriey 8 Bubble bath 12 Verbatim 14 Bidding 16 Yorick 19 Voile 20 Jade

TIMES TWO NEW YEAR WEEKEND JUMBO SOLUTION ACROSS: 1 Braggadocios 7 Brasilia 12 Click 16 Gas lamp 17 Mansion 18 Period piece 19 Nineteen to the dozen 20 Tantrist 22 Prehensile 23 Strawberry bloode 26 Aria 27 Dragooning 28 Room service 31 Munmerset 32 Commercial 34 Ink sac 36 Theme 38 Top-drawer 41 Act the fool 43 Chersonese 44 King's Lynn 45 Ratel 47 Thirst 48 Saltarelli 50 Ras Tafari 53 Magnificent 55 Blackamoor 56 Utah 58 Character witness 60 Grand Duchy 62 Unsafely 63 Marriage settlement 67 Barquentine 68 Askance 69 Imitate 70 Ruled 71 Noblemen 72 Press gallery

DOWN: 1 Begin 2 Absenteeism 3 Grantees 4 Depressurisation 5 Come to light 6 Ornate 8 Rondo 9 September 10 Lark 11 Apocalypse 12 Capital transfer tax 13 Iberian 14 Keep the peace 15 Silent film 21 Arrogamly 22 Playmate 24 Angle-from 25 Concurrent 29 In short 30 Cerebrospinal fluid 33 Chapsticks 35 Thanks for nothing 37 Echoing 39 Pied-terre 40 Wale-robin 42 Almighty 46 Atomic number 49 Leaf-stalks 50 Remorseless 51 Attaché case 52 Dirty linen 54 Taiwanese 57 Edgehill 59 Austral 61 Tenner 64 Rende 65 Teeny 66 Limb

7-200 (filteterative 50), SOWILING: Gough 9-0-37-1 (w 2 2 fours; 5-0-24-1, 2-0-8-0, 2-0-5-0); Multisley 10-2-35-1 (w 1; 2 fours; 6-1-10-0, 4-1-16-1); Headiny 5-1-22-0 (2 fours; one spell); Ealbans 5-0-33-1 (2 fours; 3-0-19-0, 3-0-44-1); Croft 10-0-44-1 (w 1; 2 fours; 8-0-34-1, 2-0-10-0); Hollionite 10-0-32-3 (w 2 1 four; one spell). R S Mehanama e Kolght b Hollies (6 bels) U D U Chandaon c Fairbrother b Eat M W Alleyme at Kake

Atkinson given little time to save Forest RON ATKINSON will begin the unenviable job of trying to

(86 bals, 2 fours) R S Mahan

keep Nottingham Forest in the FA Carling Premiership on Friday. His appointment as man-ager until the end of the season was confirmed in a statement to the Stock Exchange yesterday and Peter Shreeves, who watched the 4-0 defeat against Coventry City on Sat-urday, has already begun em-

ployment as his assistant. The board of the plc owning the club has given Atkinson permission to continue a holi-day in Barbados to celebrate his wife's 50th birthday today. His position will be reviewed in the summer and he will earn a bonus of £250,000 if Forest avoid relegation. Micky Adams will revert to coaching. having taken temporary charge after the sacking of Dave Bassett last Tuesday.

Although Atkinson will have only £2 million to spend, he will try to make Carlton Palmer, the former England midfield player, his first signing. Whether Southampton will be prepared to sell him to one of their rivals in the bottom three is another matter.

BY RICHARD HOBSON

"Ron will use the budget sooner rather than later." Shreeves, who was No 2 to Atkinson at Sheffield Wednesday last season, said. "This is a big job but if there is anybody who can achieve success at this club at this particular time, it is Big Ron." Forest identified Atkinson

as their first choice before informing Bassett of his dismissal last Tuesday. They were impressed with his ability to lead Wednesday away from trouble last year.



However, he inherits his new job seven weeks later in the season with 17 rather than 24 games remaining in which to

turn the situation around. The side has gone 18 games without a win — a record for the Premiership — and sits seven points adrift from safety. Atkinson, 60 in March, begins with a home game against Arsenal on Saturday in a repeat of his first match last sea-

son with Wednesday, which ended in a 2-0 success. Des Lyttle, the Forest defender, would have preferred Atkinson to arrive sooner in the week. "If he is going to get us out of this position, we need to start on Saturday and I don't think one day's preparation is enough." Lyttle said.

enough," Lyttle said.

The appointment of Atkinson provoked a mixed reaction among supporters. Andy Lowe, the Editor of the Tricky Tree formers and "I second to be a second to the seco fanzine, said: " It seems to have been conveniently forgotten that while he kept Wednesday up last year he also took them down in 1990. You could bring back Brian Clough in his prime and it would still be too late for this season."

Kidd keen to sign **McAteer**

cid not bet.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-59 (Knight 33),
2-87 (Fick 21), \$-125 (Februarier 23),
4-130 (Februarier 24), 5-187 (Februarier
57), 6-190 (Februarier 59).

57, 5-190 (Paintonier 59).

BOWLING: Vana 7:30-40-0 (m) 2; 3 fours; 50-25-0, 20-10-0, 0.3-0.5-0); Zoyes 6-0-31-0 (5) fours; 3-0-20-0, 3-0-11-0); Wickreamaningha 4-0-16-0 (1 four; one spell); Rhamatheran 10-0-34-3 (m) 3; 1 so; 4-0-18-0, 3-0-8-2, 3-0-8-1); Chandran 10-1-45-1 (m) 1, w 1; 1 four; 4-0-19-1, 4-1-12-0, 2-0-10-0); Jayancantya 10-1-36-0 (1 six 9-1-27-0, 1-0-8-0); Tille-inventes 2-0-8-1 (one spell).

By STEPHEN WOOD

BRIAN KIDD, the Blackburn Rovers manager, is interested in signing Jason McAteer, the Liverpool midfield player, and the Ewood Park club may make a formal approach for him today.

McAteer has had his opportunities at Liverpool lim this season and it is understood that Blackburn will offer £3.5 million for the Ireland international. They were hopeful that Sébastien Perez would join Liverpool as part of the deal, but the midfield player wants to return to

France.
Blackburn are confident that Tim Sherwood, their captain, will sign a new coutract. Sherwood was openly critical of the regime under Roy Hodgson, Kidd's predecessor. and he was on the verge of a move to Tottenham Hotspur. Blackburn are unbeaten under Kidd and Sherwood has always maintained that, as long as the club displays ambition, he will not leave.

Smillie dismissed, page 44

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McRae's efforts might prove worthless

COLIN McRAE, the former world champion, might not be allowed to score points in the first three rounds of the 1999 world raily championship that starts this weekend

water pump. Although the other teams regulations.
competing in the championship have "If there are no points to be won then there is doubt as to whether the team will benefit from any top-six places.

By JEREMY HART

The problem has occurred because McRae's car, unlike others competing in finish their two new rally cars for its world The Briton's new Martini Ford Focus is ing performance version. Ford have purbits at Wilson's Cockermouth base. "If you being forced to run in Monte Carlo, pose-built the engine using a non-standard saw the cars now you'd never think we Sweden and Kenya with a non-standard water pump, infringing the strict rally could start on Sunday," Wilson said. "But

allowed the radical new car to compete, there is no point in competing." Malcolm minute tests on the Focus that, regardless there is doubt as to whether the team will Wilson, whose M-Sport outfit in Cumbria of its eligibility for points, is unlikely to be runs Ford's rally team, said. "I'm confident competitive for at least three rallies."

that we will be allowed to score points, but we won't know until the weekend."

The team is working round the clock to the world series, does not have a road-go-debut. The El million Focuses are still in we will.".

McRae is in France carrying out last-

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